

The Persecuted Church

Persecution in the Past Year (www.opendoordsusa.org):

- 340 million Christians are living in high persecution countries
- 4,761 Christians were killed for their faith last year
- 4,277 believers were detained or imprisoned for their faith last year

Types of Persecution (Trouble on the Way by Floyd A. Brobbel):

Ridicule, Harassment, Discrimination, Defamation, Attack, Detainment
Torture, Martyrdom

The Persecutors:

Governments, Religious/Violent Extremists, Criminal Groups,
Communities, Dominant Religious Denominations, Family

50 Most Dangerous Countries to be a Follower of Jesus

(2021 World Watch List at www.opendoordsusa.org):

(Bold print indicates people directly ministered to by Cornerstone Church)

N. Korea, **Afghanistan**, Somalia, Libya, **Pakistan**, Eritrea, Yemen, Iran, Nigeria,
India, **Iraq**, Syria, Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Maldives, Egypt, China, Myanmar,
Vietnam, Mauritania, Uzbekistan, Laos, Turkmenistan, Algeria, Turkey, Tunisia,
Morocco, Mali, Qatar, **Colombia**, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Tajikistan, Nepal,
C.A.R., **Ethiopia**, **Mexico**, **Jordan**, Brunei, Congo, Kazakhstan, Cameroon,
Bhutan, Oman, Mozambique, Malaysia, Indonesia, Kuwait, **Kenya**, Comoros

What Does The Bible Teach Us About Persecution?

- Should be Expected (2 Timothy 3:12, John 15:19-20)
- Scatters the Church (Acts 8:1)
- Brings Church Growth (Acts 9:31)
- Results in Spiritual Maturity (James 1:2-4)
- Leads to Miracles and Deliverance (2 Timothy 3:11)
- Brings Blessing (Matthew 5:10-12, Mark 10:28-29)

What Should Be Our Response to Persecution?

- Expect it!
- Support for Religious Freedom for All People
- Pray for Persecutors (Matt. 5:44, Luke 23:34, Acts 7:60)
- Pray for Our Persecuted Sisters and Brothers (www.prayercast.com)