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Blessed: to share in the fullness of life God originally intended.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 'Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."Matthew 5:10-12

What if Jesus choose comfort of earth instead of going to die on the cross?

Persecution: "root meaning of "pursed" is in the word persecuted and will take a violent and extreme forms as well as subtler ones such as ridicule, dismissiveness, marginalization and exclusion."-Michael J. Glodo

"If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first." John 15:18

"But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. ¹⁵ If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler." 1 Peter 4:13-15.

Persecution what is not: But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. 1 Peter 4:13-15



<u>Righteousness</u>: primarily describes outward conduct that honors God and that is birthed out of a relationship to God.



"Betcha can't eat just one."

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"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you" Matthew 6:33





"Salvation is free but discipleship will cost you your life" -Dietrich Bonhoffer

Going forward...

- Have you choose comfort over following christ?
 - How is your foundation?
 - What if we lived out a righteous life?