



## I THESSALONIANS

### Part Seventeen: "Persecution Reveals Your Faith"

#### I Thessalonians 2:14

*For ye, brethren, became followers of the churches of God which in Judaea are in Christ Jesus: for ye also have suffered like things of your own countrymen, even as they have of the Jews*

### Persecution reveals your faith.

- 1) Persecution identifies you with others who have suffered.

*ye, brethren, became followers of the churches of God which in Judaea are in Christ Jesus*

- 2) Persecution distinguishes you from those around you.

*for ye also have suffered like things of your own countrymen*

- 3) Persecution demonstrates your allegiance to Christ.

*even as they have of the Jews*

- 4) Persecution knits your heart to other believers.

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## Preparation for Prayer

*If men only prayed on all occasions and in every place where they go through the motion! If there were only holy inflamed hearts back of all these beautiful words and gracious forms!*

*There is nothing that will preserve the life of prayer, its vigor, sweetness, obligations, seriousness and value, so much as a deep conviction that prayer is an approach to God, a pleading with God, an asking of God. Reality will then be in it; reverence will then be in the attitude, in the place, and in the air. Faith will draw, kindle, and open. Formality and deadness cannot live in this high and all-serious home of the soul.*

-EM Bounds, "Hindrances to Prayer"