Will Civil and Political Unrest Lead to Persecution?

Reading **Psalm 31:15 | NKJV** My times are in Your hand; Deliver me from the hand of my enemies, And from those who persecute me.

1. Do we need to worry about this question?

For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. **Colossians 1:16 | NKJV**

2. What does Jesus tell us will happen if we are persecuted for our faith?

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. **Matthew 5:10 | NKJV**

3. What was Paul’s attitude on being persecuted for Christ?

Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong. **2 Corinthians 12:10 | NKJV**

4. Will all Christians be tormented for their faith?

Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. **2 Timothy 3:12 | NKJV**

5. What should our attitude be if society turns against us because of our Christian beliefs?

If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. **John 15:18 | NKJV**

6. Should we be fearful of the cancel culture that seeks to silence dissent from Christians?

Blessed are you when men hate you,
And when they exclude you,
And revile you, and cast out your name as evil, For the Son of Man’s sake. **Luke 6:22 | NKJV**

Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. **Matthew 5:11 | NKJV**

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. **1 Peter 5:8 | NKJV**

7. Are we letting the current civil or political upheaval get between us and God?

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? **Romans 8:35 | NKJV**

8. How are we behaving toward those that want to silence us?

But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you. **Matthew 5:44 | NKJV**

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. **Romans 12:14 | NKJV**

9. Is our suffering and persecution worth it?

So Jesus answered and said, “Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel’s, who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time—houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions—and in the age to come, eternal life.” **Mark 10:29-30 | NKJV**

10. Can we be assured that God is in control during these tumultuous times?

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me;
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. **Psalm 23:4 | NKJV**

Daniel answered and said: “Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, For wisdom and might are His. And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise And knowledge to those who have understanding.He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what *is* in the darkness, And light dwells with Him. “I thank You and praise You, O God of my fathers; You have given me wisdom and might, And have now made known to me what we asked of You, For You have made known to us the king’s demand.” **Daniel 2:20-23 | NKJV**

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. **Philippians 4:6-7 | NKJV**