

BLESSED ARE:

THE POOR IN SPIRIT
THOSE WHO MOURN
THE MEEK
THOSE WHO HUNGER AND THIRST FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS

THE MERCIFUL
THE PURE IN HEART
THE PEACEMAKERS
THOSE WHO ARE PERSECUTED BECAUSE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS



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**BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE PERSECUTED FOR BEING
OVERZEALOUS AND ANNOYING.**



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PETER, 60 A.D. (1 PETER 4:14-15)

If you are insulted because you bear the name of Christ, you will be blessed, for the glorious Spirit of God rests upon you. If you suffer, however, it must not be for murder, stealing, making trouble, or prying into other people's affairs.



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BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE PERSECUTED FOR BEING OFFENSIVE.



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BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE PERSECUTED FOR A CAUSE.



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**BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE PERSECUTED FOR BEING LIKE
JESUS FOR THEIRS IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.**



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JESUS, 33 AD (JOHN 15:20)

Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you.



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OT PERSPECTIVE: DISOBEDIENCE LEADS TO PERSECUTION
NT PERSPECTIVE: OBEDIENCE LEADS TO PERSECUTION



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PAUL, 65 A.D. (2 TIM 3:12)

Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted...



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HOW TO RESPOND TO PERSECUTION

DON'T RETALIATE; BE JESUS-LIKE WITH YOUR ACTIONS
DON'T GIVE IN TO RESENTMENT; BE JESUS-LIKE WITH YOUR REPLY
DON'T BE DEPRESSED; BE JESUS-LIKE WITH YOUR ATTITUDE



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PETER & JOHN 33 A.D. (ACTS 5:41)

Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name.



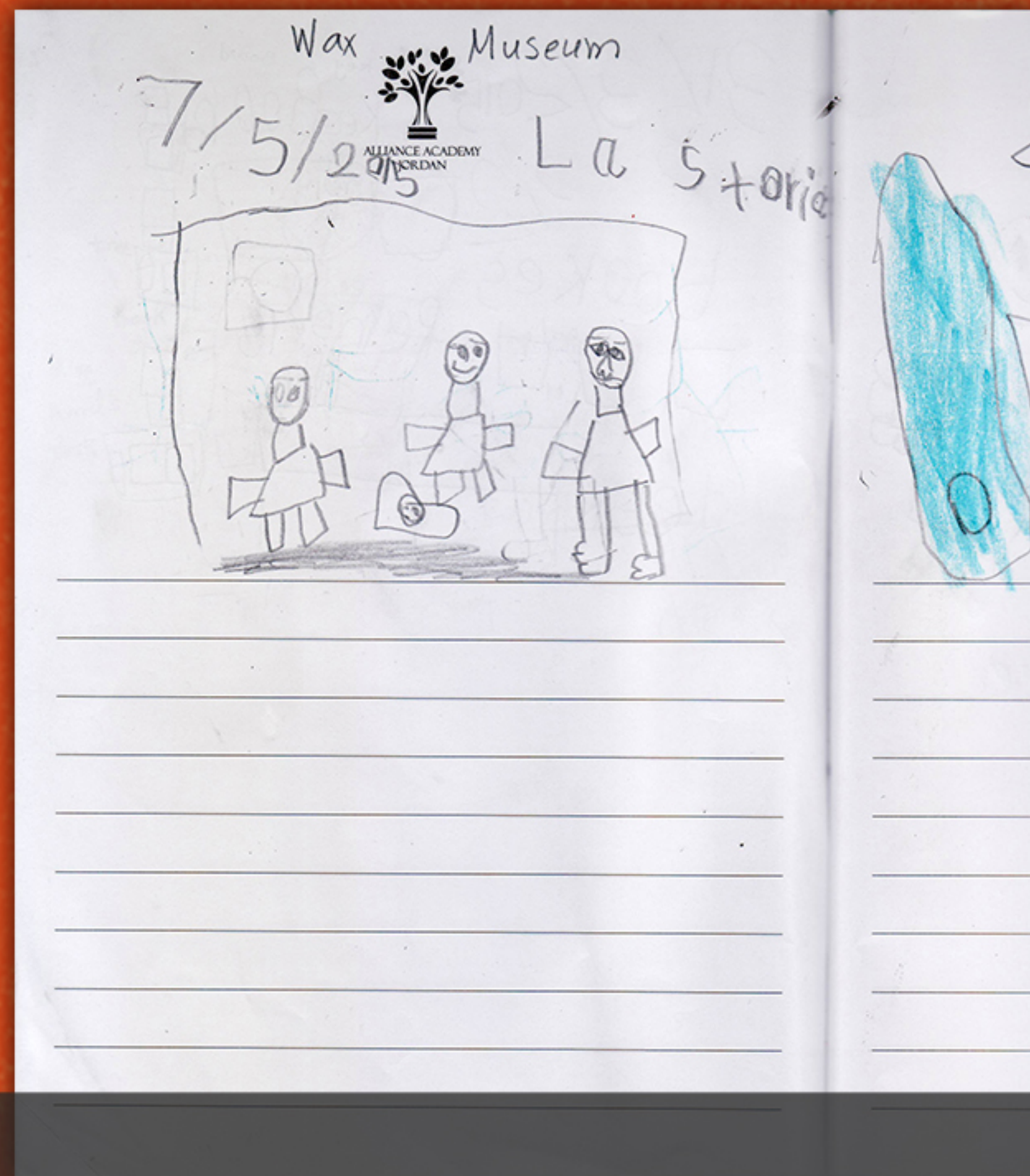
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PAUL, 55 A. D. (2 COR. 4:17-18)

For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet, they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.



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