

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake.

AM Service Matthew 5:10-12 April 15, 2018

Introduction

The Beatitudes

“blessed”

“He who shall one day fix the destiny of all men here pronounces certain characters ‘blessed;’ but, He ends by forewarning them that the world’s estimation and treatment of them will be the reverse of His.” (Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary)

Who is blessed?

- v. 3. Blessed are the poor in spirit.
4. Blessed are those who mourn.
5. Blessed are the meek.
6. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness.
7. Blessed are the merciful.
8. Blessed are the pure in heart.
9. Blessed are the peacemakers.

What blessings accompany these seven characteristics?

1. Kingdom of heaven
2. Comfort
3. Inherit the earth
4. Will be filled
5. Mercy
6. Will see God
7. Called Sons of God

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake.

The Case of Suffering Saints

1. They are persecuted.

“persecuted”

2. They are reviled.

“revile”

- * Old Testament saints were reviled.
- * Jesus Christ was reviled.
- * Paul and early Christians were reviled.
- * We will be reviled.

3. All this is for righteousness' sake.

The Comforts of Suffering Saints

1. They are blessed.

2. They will be recompensed.

3. They have examples.

4. They are to rejoice.

How about you?

1. **If you are persecuted for doing wrong, you deserve it.**
2. **If you are persecuted for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed.**
3. **Are you willing to suffer according to the will of God?**
4. **Are you ready?**