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Beatitudes: Characteristics from the Heavenly Realm

HELPFUL SCRIPTURES

SERMON NOTES

Romans 8:34-36

I. “*Blessed are the Persecuted*” (Matthew 5:10-12)

A. What Causes Persecution, (v. 10)

1. There are many reasons why people have experienced persecution...

a. Our history as an “In God We Trust” nation has far too many examples of people being persecuted...

b. Some are persecuted because they *don't* obey & some because they *do* obey the “*Great Commandment.*”

1 Peter 4:15

Romans 13:1-2

Hebrews 4:15

1 Peter 2:22

2 Timothy 3:12

c. This is the type of persecution Jesus is talking about in this Beatitude.

Matthew 5:10

John 4:34

Matthew 5:6

Mark 8:34-35

is

B. The Methods of Persecution, (v. 11)

1. *“Blessed are you when men cast insults at you, and persecute you, and say all manner of evil against you....”*
 - a. We used to say, “Sticks and stones may break my bones, but names will never hurt me!”

Acts 17:18

- b. Jesus gets it, for He experienced having people *“...casting insults at Him...”*

John 1:46

John 8:48

Luke 23:2

C. The Christian’s Response to Persecution, (v. 12)

1. *“Rejoice, and be glad , for your reward in heaven is great, for so they persecuted the prophets....”*
 - a. This sort of persecution of God’s people is not new . . .

Hebrews 11:36-37

- b. Jesus shows what we should NOT do...

1 Peter 2:23

Acts 23:2-5

- c. Jesus also shows us things we SHOULD do . . .

Matthew 5:44

Luke 23:34

Acts 5:40-41

Acts 16:25

Luke 22:50-51

Romans 12:19-21

CONCLUSIONS:

Acts 8:37-39

Ephesians 3:20

John 3:3, 5; 1 Peter 3:21; 1:23