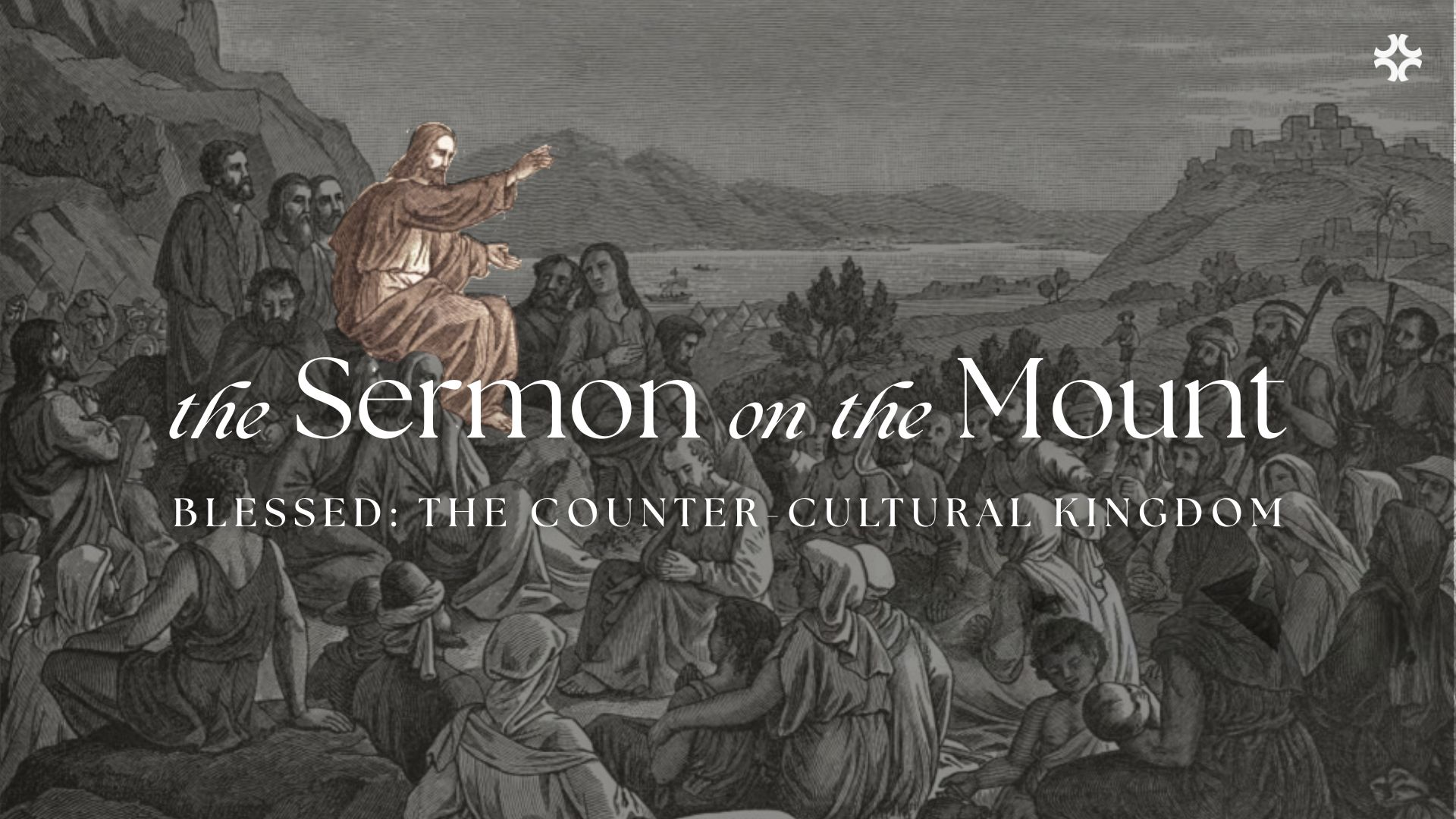


A detailed black and white illustration of Jesus teaching a large crowd on a hillside. Jesus is seated on a rock, wearing a brown robe, and gesturing with his right hand towards the crowd. He is surrounded by a large group of people, including men, women, and children, all dressed in traditional Middle Eastern attire. The background shows a body of water, distant hills, and a city with a castle on a hill. The overall scene is set in a rugged, mountainous landscape.

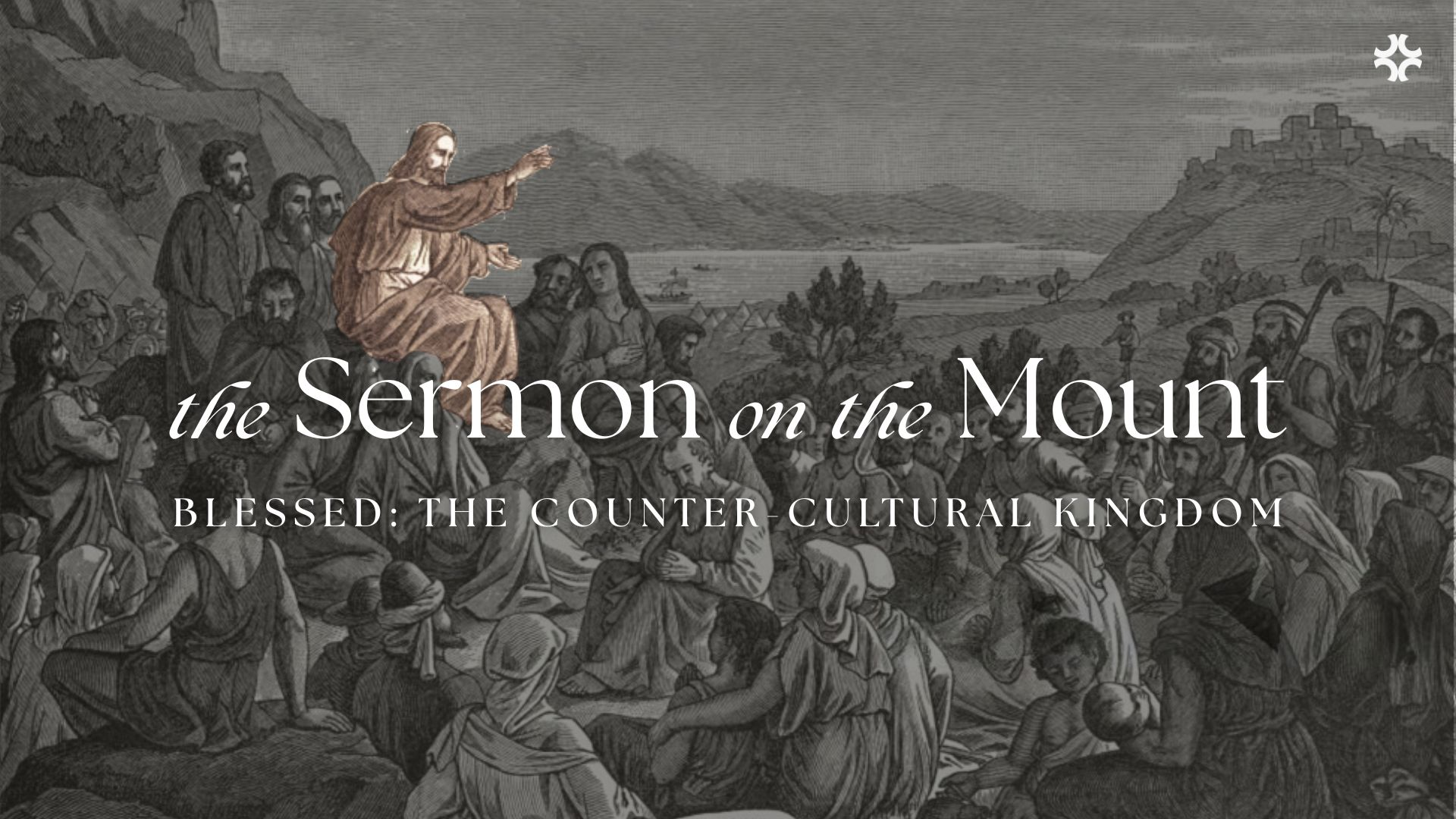
the Sermon on the Mount

BLESSED: THE COUNTER-CULTURAL KINGDOM

Matthew 5:1 Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. **2** And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:
3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. **4** "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. **5** "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Matthew 5:6 “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. **7** “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. **8** “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. **9** “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. **10** “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for

Matthew 5:10 ...theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**11** “Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. **12** Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

A detailed black and white illustration of Jesus teaching a large crowd on a hillside. Jesus is seated on a rock, wearing a brown robe, and gesturing with his right hand towards the crowd. He is surrounded by a large group of people, including men, women, and children, all dressed in traditional Middle Eastern attire. The background shows a body of water, distant hills, and a city with a castle on a hill. The overall scene is set in a rugged, mountainous landscape.

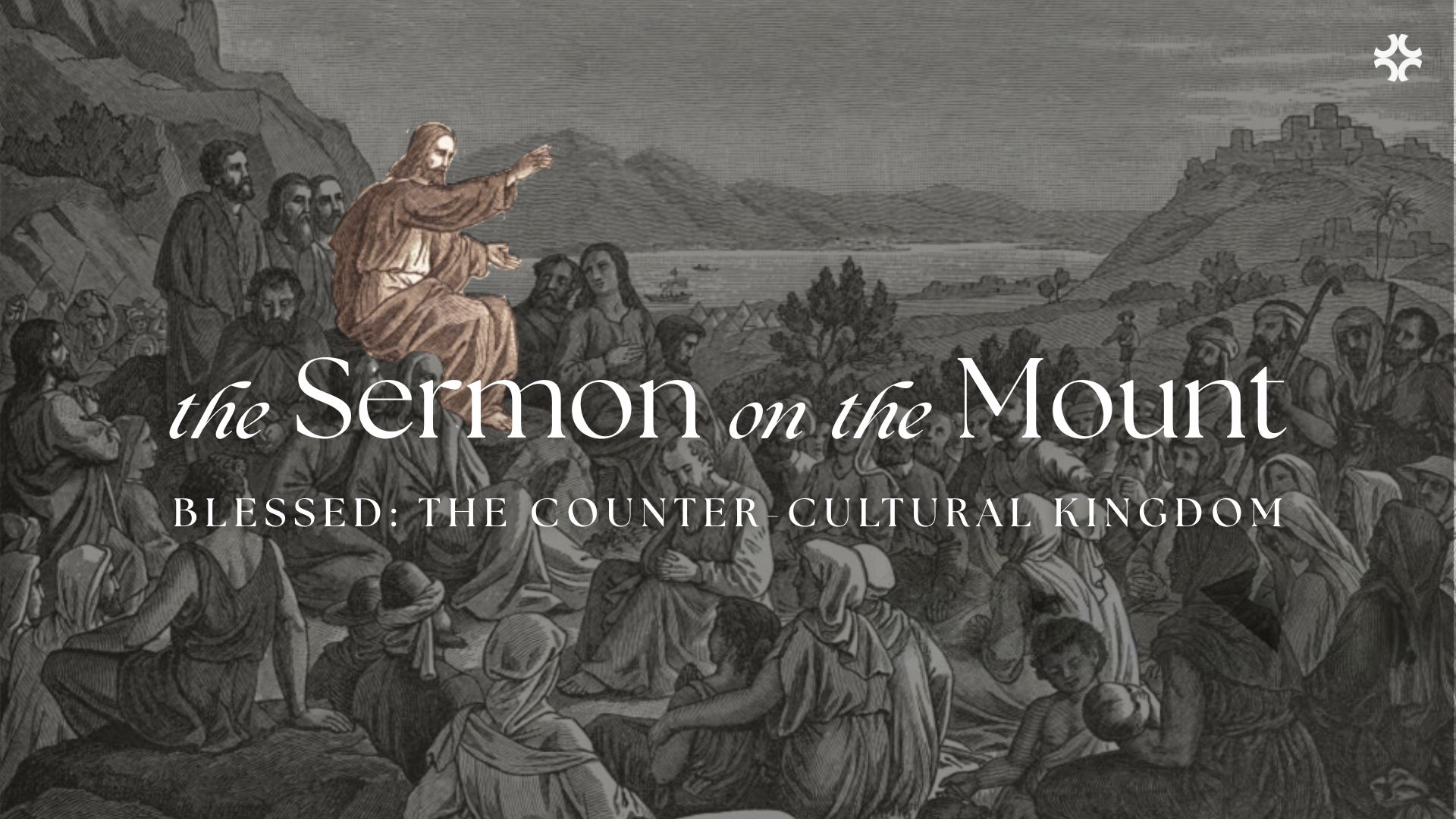
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IDENTITY

Shifts in Identity:

1. From **collectivism** to **individualism**
2. From an **inherited identity** to a **performative one**
3. From **fixed identity** to a **fluid one**
4. From an **offline identity** to an **online one**

A detailed black and white illustration of Jesus teaching a large crowd on a hillside. Jesus is seated on a rock, wearing a brown robe, and gesturing with his right hand towards the crowd. He is surrounded by a large group of people, including men, women, and children, all dressed in traditional robes. The background shows a body of water, distant hills, and a city with a castle on a hill. The overall scene is set in a rugged, mountainous landscape.

the Sermon on the Mount

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"When Jesus had finished saying these things..."

(Matthew 5:1–7:29, 10:1–11:1, 13:1–53, 18:1–19:1, and 24:1–26:1)

Matthew 5:1-12

1. **Zoom Out:** Three big picture truths about the Beatitudes
2. **Zoom In:** The last four beatitudes
3. **Application**

Zoom Out: Three big picture truths about the Beatitudes

1. Beatitudes help to define the Christian **identity**

Zoom Out

1. Blessed **ARE** the pure in Spirit...
2. Blessed **ARE** those who mourn...
3. Blessed **ARE** the meek...
4. Blessed **ARE** those who hunger and thirst for righteousness...

Zoom Out: Three big picture truths about the Beatitudes

1. Beatitudes help to define the Christian **identity**
2. Beatitudes are written for **believers**

Matthew 5:3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Zoom Out: Three big picture truths about the Beatitudes

1. Beatitudes help to define the Christian **identity**
2. Beatitudes are written for **believers**
3. Beatitudes re-center our **individuality and community**

Matthew 5:1-12

1. Zoom Out
2. **Zoom In**: The last four beatitudes

Matthew 5:7 “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

Hebrews 2:17 Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

Matthew 5:8 “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

1 John 3:3 "And everyone who has this hope set on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure."

1 Peter 2:22 "He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in His mouth."

Hebrews 7:26 "For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens."

“Who will give me help, so that I may rest in you? Who will help me, so that you will come into my heart and inebriate it, to the end that I may forget my evils and embrace you, my one good?”

- St. Augustine's prayer

Matthew 5:9 “Blessed are the
peacemakers, for they shall be called sons
of God.

“When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said ‘Repent’ he intended that the entire life of believers should be repentance.”

- Martin Luther

Isaiah 9:6 “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace”

Matthew 5:10-12 “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

2 Timothy 3:12 "All who desire to live a
godly life in Christ Jesus will be
persecuted".

Matthew 5:1-12

1. Zoom Out
2. Zoom In
3. **Application**