

# BE ATTITUDES

**Attitudes** that should **Be** in every **Disciple**

# PART 7

## Blessed Are the Persecuted

*Matthew 5:10-12*

<sup>1</sup> When he saw the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup> Then he began to teach them, saying:

<sup>3</sup> “Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

<sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> Blessed are the meek,  
for they will inherit the earth.

- <sup>6</sup> Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
- <sup>7</sup> Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.
- <sup>8</sup> Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
- <sup>9</sup> Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.

<sup>10</sup> Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

<sup>11</sup> “You are blessed when they insult you and persecute you and falsely say every kind of evil against you because of me.

<sup>12</sup> Be glad and rejoice, because your reward is great in heaven. For that is how they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

# 1. Living a Beatitude heart will draw reactions from the world

*You are blessed when they insult you and persecute you and falsely say every kind of evil against you because of me. (v.11)*

What kind of reaction should we expect to stir up?

- Some people are attracted.
- Some people are apathetic.
- Some people aren't aware.
- Some people are antagonistic.

# 1. Living a Beatitude Heart Will Draw Reactions From the World

<sup>10</sup>Blessed are those who are persecuted **because of righteousness...** <sup>11</sup>You are blessed when they insult you and persecute you and falsely say every kind of evil against you **because of me.**" (Matt. 5:10, 11)

<sup>19</sup>If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own. However, because you are **not of the world**, but I have chosen you out of it, the world hates you.

<sup>20</sup>Remember the word I spoke to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you." (John 15:19–20)

## 2. Living a Beatitude Heart Requires Courage

*You are blessed when they **insult** you and **persecute** you and **falsely say** every kind of evil against you because of me. (v.11)*

### THREE KINDS OF PERSECUTION

- **Personal Insults** — “insult you”
- **Physical Abuse** — “persecute you”
- **Social Stigma** — “falsely say every kind of evil against you because of me.”



# 3. Living a Beatitude Heart Receives a Reward

*Be glad and rejoice, because your reward is great in heaven. For that is how they persecuted the prophets who were before you. (v.12)*

**What do you do if you feel you're under persecution?**

- **Be sure it's persecution and not punishment.**

*<sup>14</sup> If you are ridiculed for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. <sup>15</sup> Let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or a meddler.*

*<sup>16</sup> But if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed but let him glorify God in having that name. (1 Pt. 4:14-16)*

# 3. Living a Beatitude Heart Receives a Reward

What do you do if you feel you're under persecution?

- Be faithful in your reaction to abuse for it can change someone else's life.

*"He saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>He said, "Look, I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" (Acts 7:55–56)*