



## THE BEATITUDES III

This week we will begin our study with Blessed are the Peacemakers. We have already covered the following:

- Blessed are the poor in spirit
- Blessed are they that mourn
- Blessed are the meek
- Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness
- Blessed are the merciful
- Blessed are the pure in heart

With each of these we have learned that the Word of God goes a lot deeper than what appears from a cursory reading of the Bible. The Word of God is deep and many do not have the ability to grasp the depth of God's Word.

### **Matthew 5:1-12**

- 1 And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto 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 they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
- 5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
- 6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
- 7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

9 Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

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

### **Blessed are the Peacemakers:**

The peacemakers are called the children of God. These are not the politicians who say peace peace when there is no peace, but these are the one who bring real peace between warring factions. These are the ones who are able to negotiate a loving peace between those who want to fight.

The political method of peacemaking in reality is a compromise between the two warring factions. These are the ones who claim to make peace without ever bringing a real peace.

The peacemakers who are the children of God are those who create a peace that is heartfelt and lasting. These peacemakers have the ability to bring the Spirit of the Lord to the peace table. Only where the Spirit of the Lord

## THE BEATITUDES III

is present is there any real peace. The Lord Jesus Christ is the one who brings real and lasting peace. Look at the Middle East with all of the political maneuvering to bring peace. Where there is outright animosity against Christianity and Judaism there will never be any peace.

The true peacemakers bring a peace that the world cannot see. Their peacemaking comes from the Lord and not from their own wisdom and knowledge. When there is peace from the Lord there is a lasting peace that endures and is real.

The Middle East will have peace only when the Lord Jesus returns. Until then there will be constant fighting and war over Israel. When the Lord returns Israel will have a territory that covers Israel, Gaza, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia. This is the border of Israel specified in the Bible.

### **Joshua 1:1-4**

1 Now after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD it came to pass, that the LORD spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying,

2 Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel.

3 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

**Blessed are they which are persecuted  
for righteousness' sake:**

There are many in the world who are being persecuted without cause. There are Christians who are being thrown in jail for preaching the Gospel. There was reported recently a man who converted to Christianity from Islam is sentenced to death in Afghanistan. The closer we get to the return of Jesus Christ the greater the condemnation of born-again Christians. Throughout the world Christians are being executed because they are Christian and refuse to change their belief.

We are seeing a greater number of Christians who are being persecuted for righteousness sake. This persecution has not existed since the 1<sup>st</sup> century and the Inquisition.

Are you prepared to give your life for being a Christian? Are you ready die for your belief in Jesus Christ? The days are coming to America, Europe, and other areas around the world where you are now free to practice Christianity that you will be executed for you faith.

Those who are persecuted for righteousness sake will enter into heaven. These are not the phony Christians who are Christian in name only, but are really born-again believers in Christ Jesus. These are the ones who have enough stamina to stand up to the authorities declaring their faith in Jesus Christ. In Foxes Book of Martyrs we read about Polycarp who was burned alive at the stake while he was praying for his executioners. These are the real Christians who gave their all to be righteous.

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Sunday School . . . . . 11:30 AM  
Sunday Morning Worship . . . . . 12:00 Noon  
Sunday Evening . . . . . 6:30 PM  
Wednesday Evening . . . . . 7:30 PM

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