



SERMON NOTES

June 20, 2010

Scripture: Luke 6:20-26 (NAS)

Topic: "The Persecution of Believers"

Rev. Bruce Gardner

- 20 And turning His gaze toward His disciples, He began to say, "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.
- 21 "Blessed are you who hunger now, for you shall be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.
- 22 "Blessed are you when men hate you, and ostracize you, and insult you, and scorn your name as evil, for the sake of the Son of Man.
- 23 "Be glad in that day and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven. For in the same way their fathers used to treat the prophets.
- 24 "But woe to you who are rich, for you are receiving your comfort in full.
- 25 "Woe to you who are well-fed now, for you shall be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.
- 26 "Woe to you when all men speak well of you, for their fathers used to treat the false prophets in the same way.

I. THE "B" ATTITUDE

- A. The First Three Are Addressed To Believers
- B. The Fourth Addresses How The World Perceives The Believer
1. Hate
 2. Ostracize
 3. Insult

II. JESUS GIVES HIS FOLLOWERS WARNINGS

- A. The Message: The Kingdom Of Heaven Is At Hand

B. The Response To The Proclaimers Of The Message

1. Warning of coming persecution *Matthew 10:16-18*
2. Paul's experience *II Corinthians 11:24-25*
3. Don't worry about what you will say *Matthew 10:19-20*
4. He says it will be ugly *Matthew 10:21-22*

C. They Will Treat You As The Prophets Were Treated

1. General response *Nehemiah 9:26; II Chronicles 36:16*
2. Specific examples
 - a. Zechariah *II Chronicles 24:20-21*
 - b. Jeremiah *Jeremiah 37:15; 38:6*
 - c. Elijah
 - d. John the Baptist
3. The greatest prophet – Jesus *Matthew 10:24*
 - a. Nazareth – sought to throw him over a cliff
 - b. He was crucified *John 15:18*

III. RESPONSE: BE GLAD, LEAP FOR JOY *Acts 5:41*

IV. THOSE SET IN CONTRAST TO THE BLESSED