

College of the Scriptures

Greater Christ Temple APOSTOLIC CHURCH

2940 S. Anthony Blvd. Fort Wayne, IN 46806

Wednesday Evening Bible Study 6:00 PM

“Blessed”

Part 08

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pastor / teacher



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Matthew 5:10

10 Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

- Generally people fear persecution. Peer pressure prevents many supposedly “professing Christians” from acknowledging who they are, what they are, and what they should be standing for in public situations. It’s the fear of being different and the desire to “fit in” which causes some believers to assimilate into the common group instead of marking themselves as separated (sanctified/holy) unto God. In other words, the enemy utilizes fear in order to cause believers to conform to this world rather than being transformed by the renewing of their minds, which would result in the transformation of their conduct.

- Nobody desires to be teased or talked about, these things are viewed as being negative.

Matthew 5:10

10 Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

- “For” is a causative word, it points to the reason for this blessedness. We can be blessed, happy, supremely satisfied, well off, favored, and joyful when we are being persecute for righteousness’ sake because no matter what is done to us, no one can take away our sure reward which is in the Kingdom of Heaven (hence, it is called “The Good News”).

Romans 8:16-18

16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, **17** and if children, then heirs — heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together. **18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.**

Daniel 7:27

27 Then the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him.'

Matthew 5:11-12

11 "Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. **12** Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great *is* your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

- The believer must be resolute in their decision to walk with Christ because persecution of one form or the other is simply par for the course, as a matter of fact, it is a badge of authenticity:

2 Timothy 3:12

12 Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

- When some says that you are strange or crazy (different than the norm/not common) you should take it as a compliment to the authenticity of your walk of faith:

1 Peter 2:9

9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

Acts 5:40-41

40 And they agreed with him, and when they had called for the apostles and **beaten** them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. **41** So they departed from the presence of the council, **rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer** shame for His name. ⁶

2 Timothy 2:12

12 If we endure, we shall also reign with Him. If we deny Him, He also will deny us.

- This promise, as many others, comes with an “if clause”. Christ has gone the extra mile for you and it is certainly not too much to ask that you reciprocate. He stands for you and He expects you to stand for Him, if you won’t, He won’t (very important on judgment day).

Revelation 21:7-8

7 He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. **8** But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually

immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

- Unwillingness to suffer and endure persecution for the cause of Christ only makes it evident that you are not yet a citizen of His Kingdom, because the Kingdom of God is righteousness (which we could not earn), peace (which can not be altered by persecution), and joy (which the devil can't steal, due to the promises of God, who cannot lie) in the Holy Ghost (Romans 14:17).



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2940 S. Anthony Blvd. Fort Wayne, IN 46806

Sunday School | 9:00 AM
Morning Worship | 10:30 AM

District Elder
Mark A. Haywood
senior pastor



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