



## Bible Study Guide

# Blessed Are The Insulted

Text: Matthew 5:10-12

**Bible Study Focus:** Most believers readily embrace the promises of comfort, mercy, righteousness, and peace found in the Beatitudes. However, Jesus concludes this section with one of His most challenging statements: *“Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.”* (Matthew 5:11) This study explores why those who endure opposition for Christ are called blessed and how our response to offense reveals the depth of our faith.

**Key verses:** *“Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for **your reward in heaven is great**; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”* – **Matthew 5:11,12 (NASB)**

## Kingdom Possession

- *“Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for **theirs is the kingdom of heaven**...”* – **Matthew 5:10**
  - **Key idea:** Those who endure persecution for the sake of righteousness are not losing—they are gaining possession of something greater than this world can offer. Jesus speaks of the **Kingdom** as a **present** possession.
  - **Kingdom of Heaven – *basileia ouranon* (Gk.)** – the royal **rule**, reign, and dominion of God.
    - **John 18:36 (NKJV)** – *(Jesus speaking to Pontius Pilate) “Jesus answered, ‘My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here.’”*
      - Its **origin** is heavenly, not earthly: His authority comes from God, not from human governments
      - Its **methods** and **culture** are different: Christ’s kingdom advances through truth, repentance, faith, and the work of the Holy Spirit...not military force and political power.
      - Its citizens have **dual** citizenship
        - *“For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;”* – **Philippians 3:20**
          - **Citizenship – *politeuma*** – the constitution of a commonwealth; to be a part of an official government;



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- **reward** – *misthos* (Gk.) – wages, compensation, **payment** due for work **performed**;
  - Faithfulness under suffering is never overlooked by God. Every insult endured for Christ, every false accusation, and every act of obedience is **noticed**, **recorded**, and **charged** to your account in heaven (kingdom).
    - **Hebrews 11:6** – “But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a **rewarder** of those who diligently seek Him.”
      - We are compensated as we search for the Lord and His will. We get paid to “look” for Him.
- **Question**: How does the reality of God’s Kingdom change the way we view suffering?

## Case Study: Canaanite Woman (Matthew 15:21-28)

- She was:
  - **Ignored**: *He did not answer her with even a word.* – **Matthew 15:23**
  - **Rejected**: *His disciples urged Him, saying, “Send her away, because she keeps shouting behind us.” Jesus answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”* - **Matthew 15:24**
  - **Insulted**: *Jesus answered, “It is not good to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.”* – **Matthew 15:26**

## Her Response

- “Then she came and worshipped Him, saying, ‘Lord, help me.’” – Matthew 15:25
  - **Worship** – *proskuneo* – to bow down in reverence; to express devotion and submission;
    - Instead of being “offended” she drew closer to the one who can save her.
  - **Undeterred reply** – “**Yes, Lord**, yet even dogs eat the crumbs that fall from the master’s table.” Matthew 15:27
- **Question**: In what ways can worship impact your connection to God’s Kingdom?

## The Savior’s Response

- “Then Jesus answered her, ‘O woman, great is your faith. Let it be done for you as you desire.’ And her daughter was healed instantly.” – **Matthew 15:28**
  - **Great is your faith**: faith is measured in the Kingdom – based on our response.
  - **Let it be done for you as you desire**: wages = “blank check”