

# Sermon Outline

New Here?



**TEXT to connect (269-280-2878):** Text “welcome” if you are new, or “prayer” if you would like prayer.

June 7, 2026

**“True Blessedness (Part 3)”**  
Pastor Corey Kugle

Matthew 5:10-12

## Introduction

### 1. The Characteristics of True Blessedness: Persecution (vv. 10-11)

- A. Persecution is to be expected (2 Tim. 3:12)
- B. Blessed are those who are persecuted *because of righteousness* (v. 10; 1 Pet. 4:15-16)
  - i. Stand for what’s right, despite the cost
  - ii. The reward is the kingdom of heaven (v.10)
- C. Blessed are those who are persecuted *because of Christ* (v. 11)
  - i. We must not run from persecution or seek to always be liked by everyone (Lk. 6:26)
  - ii. Do not just tell people what they want to hear, proclaim the exclusive message of Jesus (Acts 4:12; Jn. 14:6)

### 2. How to Respond to Persecution (v. 12)

- A. Rejoice and be glad (only two imperatives in the Beatitudes!)
  - i. The great and eternal reward of heaven
    - 1. We do not earn heaven/a right relationship with God

2. Heaven *is* the eternal reward of those who are saved by grace and through faith.

ii. The godly company we are part of (when persecuted)

1. We stand on the shoulders of the prophets (and other faithful servants of God), who were persecuted before us (Neh. 9:26, Jer. 20:1-2, 2 Chron. 24:20-21, Heb. 11:35-38)

### 3. Take Action

A. Support the persecuted church

i. Ministries: *Open Doors* (ODUSA.org) & *Voice of the Martyrs* (Persecution.com)

ii. Prayer resources: *Open Doors* (opendoorsus.org/en-US/getinvolved/pray); *Voice of the Martyrs/10 Ways to Pray* (persecution.com/howtopray)

B. View persecution through a biblical/eternal lens

i. Suffering/persecution is temporary (2 Cor. 4:17)

ii. Suffering/persecution refines our character (Rom. 5:3-4)

iii. Suffering/persecution cannot separate us from God's love (Rom. 8:35-39)

C. Remember who the true enemy is

i. We have only one true enemy: Satan. Those who oppose us have been taken captive by the enemy.

ii. Love our persecutors and pray for them, they too need Christ (Matt. 5:44)

**\* Rejoice and Live as the Blessed Kingdom Citizens that You Are!\***

#### ***Gospel of Matthew - Summer Daily Reading Plan:***

- Hard copies available:
  - In the racks by each door inside the Worship Center
  - For download from Chapel website homepage ([TheChapelSJ.com](http://TheChapelSJ.com))
- Digital plan available on The Chapel app ([TheChapelSJ.com/App](http://TheChapelSJ.com/App))

#### **What's Next?**

- June 14: "*Salt & Light*" – Matt. 5:13-16, Pastor Corey Kugle
- June 21: "*Jesus, the OT, and Us*" – Matt. 5:17-20, Pastor Corey Kugle