

7 Beatitudes - cont.

The “first resurrection” is symbolic of victory over evil and loyalty to Christ. Only loyal Christians are blessed.

6

And behold, I come quickly. Blessed is he that keeps the words of the prophecy of this book (Revelation 22:7)

Hearing and doing God’s word makes one blessed, not just hearing alone (James 1:25).

7

Blessed are they that wash their robes [do his commandments – KJV], that they may have the right to come to the tree of life, and may enter in by the gates into the city (Revelation 22:14)

Entering into heaven’s rest is the most important goal in life and the most blessed state of all (Matthew 25:23; Revelation 22:19).

Are You Blessed?

Friend, are you blessed. You may

7 Beatitudes - Cont.

answer “Yes” to that question because you are blessed with earthly gain. You may be blessed with dependable employment, a quality education, a talent for sports, good health, a positive reputation, or material possessions. But are you blessed with a right relationship with God? If not, change that today while you can!

- Chris Reeves -

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

The Seven Beatitudes of the Book of Revelation

We commonly look to the “Sermon on the Mount” in the book of Matthew for the well-known beatitudes of Jesus (Matthew 5:3-12). However, the disciple whom Jesus loved, John, also wrote some beatitudes as well. He wrote these beatitudes at the end of the New Testament period in order to encourage persecuted Christians to remain faithful to the Lord and not fear the Roman Empire.

What is a “beatitude”? The word “blessed” is from the Greek word *makarios*, meaning to be “supremely blessed; fortunate; well off; or, a happy state of being.” When a person is right with God, he or she is truly blessed.

What does “well off” mean to the world today? Many people today would say that “well off” means that one is blessed materially - blessed with money and things. However, “blessed” in God’s view comes from a right relationship with him, regardless of one’s material possessions.

Even those Christians who were persecuted for the cause of Christ in John’s day were “blessed”. Let us consider the beatitudes of John on the Isle of Patmos in the book of Revelation and see what true, Christian blessing is.

1

Blessed is he that reads, and they that hear the words of the prophecy, and keep the things that are written therein: for the time is at hand (Revelation 1:3)

The Bible is the most important, and the most neglected, book of all time. We are blessed only when we read it and hear it for what it is - God’s word (Nehemiah 8:3ff; Isaiah 34:16; 2 Timothy 3:16).

2

And I heard the voice from heaven saying, Write, Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; for their works follow with them (Revelation 14:13)

All die, but only those who die in the Lord, as a faithful Christian, are blessed and remembered for good (1 Thessalonians 4:13ff).

3

Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk

naked, and they see his shame (Revelations 16:15)

Only careful, vigilant and pure living in a wicked world will be blessed (1 Thessalonians 5:2,4; 2 Peter 3:10; Revelation 3:4-5).

4

And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they that are bidden to the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are true words of God (Rev. 19:9)

Only those joined to Christ as his bride at his coming will be blessed and invited into heaven (Matthew 22:9-14; 25:10; 2 Corinthians 11:3; Revelation 19:7-8; 21:2,9,17).

5

Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: over these the second death hath no power; but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years (Revelation 20:6)

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