

**Exposition of Matthew**  
**Blessed are the Persecuted**  
**(Matt. 5:10-12)**

**I. The eighth beatitude**

Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness (10a)

A. Peace is not always possible

“Persecution is simply the clash between two irreconcilable value-systems” (John Stott).

B. Blessed are the persecuted

Jn. 15:18-21; 2 Tim. 3:12; Lk. 6:26

C. For the sake of righteousness

D. The cause for the blessedness

**II. Expansion and Transition: Blessed are you (11)**

A. Whenever they reproach you

B. Persecute you

C. Speak all kinds of evil against you for My sake

**III. The response and the cause (12)**

A. Rejoice and be glad

Acts 5:41

1 Pet. 4:13-14

B. Because your reward in heaven is great

C. For in the same way they persecuted the prophets before you

2 Chron. 24:21; Neh. 9:26; Jer. 20:2

**Conclusion**