

Theme: Though we may find joy in the fruit of our labors for the Kingdom of God, the true blessing is knowing that we are in that Kingdom because we know the King.

Background: Concluding Jesus’ mission of the 72. We saw their identity, danger, power and mission. What we didn’t see was their “blessing”.

Introduction: When the tide is turned against the enemy.

I. Joyful (and Powerful) Witness

A. “In Your Name!” (v.17)

1. Not our work – but His!
- Satan is losing ground
2. The consequences of the fall are being overturned!

B. Satan’s Fall (v.18)

1. Like lightening (In a flash!)
2. Jesus and His disciples see his fall!
- Victory had been assured!. (Luke 4:1-13)
- Finished at the cross!!

NOTE: The disciples are seeing the overthrow of the kingdom of darkness. The Gospel is the undoing of the curse!

C. The Power of Jesus (v.22)

1. All things are given to Jesus
2. He gives power to His disciples (v.19)
- Serpents/scorpions? Reference to spiritual enemies
- No harm?

II. A Heavenly Reward (v.20)

- ### A. The spirits obey you?
- This will end
 - It is not your hope

- ### B. A name written in Heaven!
- You cannot be forgotten
 - Written there before the foundations of the earth

III. The Eyes of the Blessed (vv.21,22)

A. The Kingdom of God is revealed

1. Not to the wise and understanding
2. To little children?
 - Not “educated” vs. “uneducated”

B. Who knows the Father?

1. The divine relationship
 - The Father knows the Son
 - The Son knows the Father

Absolute sovereignty of God (Father, Son , Holy Spirit) stated as clearly here as in John 6!
2. Sovereign Grace!
 - Jesus makes Him known (John 14:6)
3. Eyes to see the fulfillment of God’s Promise

C. What others longed to see

1. Looking for the Kingdom of God
 - Prophets and kings longed for it
2. Looking for the Messiah
 - His disciples were blessed to see Him

IV. Called to Rejoice!!

1. Greater blessing to us! (John 20:29)
2. Is your name written in heaven?
3. Will you share in the harvest?
4. We are engaged in battle to reverse the presence/power of evil in the world. Where are you in the fight?
5. Blessing comes to those who see Jesus. It won’t fade with time – not even into eternity!