

The Gospel of Matthew #91

A WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Matthew 10:40-42

Most of this address is preparation for enduring suffering.

But, in _____, He ends with a welcome encouraging note:

- I. There _____ be people who will receive and welcome you and your message
- II. You are so _____ identified with Me that when they do, it is as if they are receiving Me, and thus My Father as well
- III. Their kindness to you will result in their _____ in your Kingdom treasures.

These comments refer primarily to the twelve, but remember vs16-42 refer to the time between Jesus' first and second coming; therefore, it also refers to us.

He describes this in order of "significant" to "insignificant":

- A. _____
Cf. 23:34: one who speaks for God

If accept *because* accept the message, then treasure
Egs: I Thessalonians 3:6
Philippians 4:14-19

- B. _____ one
Cf. 5:6: share with you a hunger and thirst for righteousness

5:20: having a new kind of righteousness

Share also with you the blessings of the beatitudes

- C. Extreme of _____ person and act:
 - Little one (ignored by this world as unimportant)
 - Cup of cold water (refers to least bit of kindness!)
Cup of cold water to quiet Thaddeus back there
Or a homeless Christian

Application to you:

1. As the message bearer: be encouraged! There will be some who will welcome your evangelism and be saved!
2. They will be very grateful to you for that; your fellowship will be sweet.
3. You are so closely identified with Jesus that He links the reception of you and Him together!
4. Reminder to be kind to those who belong to Him, even the most insignificant. You to are a "little one" for whom He died.
5. Remember the persecuted and oppressed because they belong to Him (cf. 25:31-46). The "reward" He is talking about is "eternal Life" (25:46) and its enhancements.