

Blessed are the peace makers and those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake

Scripture Reading: Matthew 5:9-12

7. Blessed are the peacemakers: What do you mean by peace? To live without any hatred is peace. In a world full of competition, people strive to pull down other in order to be exalted. But peace makers are those who do not backbite but rather make peace even with those who speak against them. We who have received peace from our Lord Jesus Christ should pass it on to others (Colossians 1:20).

Blessings of the peacemakers: They shall be called the sons of God. Those who work on settling the differences between people and strive to bring about peace will be called the sons of God.

8. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness" sake: How can those who are persecuted for righteousness" sake be blessed? Yes, the bible says so. All those who pursue righteousness, honesty, discipline and truth not just in words but also in actions will be surely persecuted. Those who do good will be surely persecuted. Persecuted people usually fall under two categories. One group suffers because of their wrong doings and another group suffers because of doing good. Their good deeds provoke a few to be envious of them and act against them. Jesus said that those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake are blessed. Those who suffer because of doing good are blessed people.

Blessings of those who suffer for righteousness sake: Theirs is the kingdom of heaven. When we suffer for the sake of righteousness", we partake in the sufferings of Christ. When we take part In His sufferings we shall also take part in His glory. The Holy Spirit will abide with us (1 Peter 4:13, 14).

Questions:

1. What do you mean by peace?
2. Who shall be the sons of God?
3. Who will be persecuted?