

Series: The Gospel of Luke

Sermon: The Blessed Ones

Passage: Luke 6:20-26 (ESV)

Illustration:

Need: The true disciple of Jesus is determined by the condition of his or her heart, with blessings or woes to follow.

I. The Scene

- Jesus addresses His “disciples”: (1) apostles, (2) following disciples of varying levels of commitment & understanding, (3) uncommitted but curious followers.
- Jesus declares blessing for those in the most beneficial, favored position, who experienced the true well-being that comes from a right relationship with God.
- Jesus pronounces woes to those in the worst, most unfavorable condition, who experience the calamity, disaster, & damnation reserved for the wicked.

II. Blessed are you...

- Who embrace, believe in, trust, follow, identify with Jesus of Nazareth, the Savior & Messiah.
- Poor - those who know that they are bankrupt before God of righteousness of their own.
- Hungry - those who long for the righteousness of God that they cannot produce or earn.
- Mourn - those who sorrow over their own brokenness and that around them.
- Rejected - those who embrace Jesus and are canceled because of it.
- God’s promised blessings come through Christ even though it will involve suffering now in this life.

III. Woe to you...

- Who reject, refuse to believe, resist, and deny Jesus of Nazareth to be Savior or Messiah.
- Rich - those who rely upon their own righteous ability.
- Full - those who have all they want and assume it to be evidence of their right standing.
- Laugh - those who revel in their good fortune and ignore or disdain the brokenness around them.
- Beloved - those whom the world receives gladly because their religion is Christ-less.
- No amount of temporary pleasure or security will be worth God’s future judgment.

IV. Application

- Woe to any who are trusting in belief in God, their own good deeds, church attendance, charitable contributions, family faith, baptism, etc. to bring them into a right relationship with God.
- Shame on all who are trusting Jesus for heaven but then live out their daily lives for money, stuff, the acceptance of others, with no concern for the things that matter to Christ.
- Be blessed all who knowing their spiritual emptiness, hungering for God’s righteousness, broken over their own sin and the brokenness around them, cry out to God by faith in Jesus and pursue Him come what may.