

The doorway to heaven

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

MATTHEW 5:10

Written by Bill Perkins

Every Beatitude
is a picture of Jesus.
And this one
shows Him suffering persecution
for doing what is right.

We see it
when He heals the man
with the withered hand—
a simple act of mercy—
and the Pharisees leave
plotting His death
(Mark 3:1–6).

We see it
when a mob lifts stones
as He kneels in the dust
to defend a woman
caught in sin
(John 8:1–11).

We see it
when they call Him a glutton
and a friend of sinners
because He eats with the broken
His Father loves
(Matthew 11:19).

We see it
when they accuse Him
of breaking the Sabbath
for healing a man

who had been crippled
for thirty-eight years
(John 5:1–18).

We see it
when they say He has a demon
after He frees a man
who had one
(Mark 3:22; John 10:20–21).

We see it
when false witnesses gather,
when soldiers strike His face,
when a crown of thorns
is pressed into His brow
(Matthew 26–27).

And we see it
when nails pierce the hands
that only ever healed
(Luke 23:33).

In every place Jesus suffered,
the kingdom of heaven
was present.
Because the Kingdom
belongs to the King—
and wherever He stands,
the Kingdom stands with Him.

Jesus never tells us
to seek persecution.

He tells us
to seek Him.

And when we find Him,
we find Him suffering
for righteousness.

So when we speak and act
as He did,
we will meet the same resistance
He met—

not because we seek suffering,
but because His life
is taking shape in ours.

And in those hours,
we are blessed.

Not because pain is good,
but because persecution
for righteousness' sake
places us where He is.

It draws us into
the life of the King.

It brings us into
the place of His dwelling.

It reveals
that the Kingdom
is ours.