

Jesus Blesses His Disciples

Pastor Jeff Alexander + Epiphany 6 + February 17, 2019



Out of the crowds who are checking Him out, Jesus calls His disciples—people Jesus will save from their sins and people Jesus will BLESS TO BE A BLESSING.

Luke 6:20a

Looking at His disciples, (Jesus) said...

The disciples described in Luke's Gospel are the first to receive the blessings that are now given to all of us who COME TO JESUS by faith and FOLLOW JESUS in our daily lives.

Luke 6:20b

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God."

To the POOR, Jesus gives the KINGDOM.

Luke 6:21a

"Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied."

To the HUNGRY, Jesus guarantees SATISFACTION.

Luke 6:21b

"Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh."

To the WEEPING, Jesus promises LAUGHTER.

Luke 6:22-23

"Blessed are you when people hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven."

To the EXCLUDED, Jesus provides BELONGING.

While all of these blessings of Jesus can be experienced IN PART during our earthly lives, they will be experienced IN FULL when we have the greatest blessing of all: life with Jesus in heaven.

1 Corinthians 15:19-20

If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.