
SERMON OUTLINE

Blessings through Conflict

Matthew 5:9-12

- I. Peacemaking: We are blessed when we prevent and resolve conflicts (Matthew 5:9).
 - A. *Peace-makers* – Conflict resolution doesn't just happen; it's a choice.
 1. I must develop godly traits that prevent and minimize conflict (Ephesians 4:24-30).
 2. I must courageously handle some conflicts (Matthew 5:23-24; 18:15; 1 Corinthians 6:1-8; Ephesians 4:32).
 - B. *Sons of God* – Conflict resolution is a God thing.
 1. He removed eternal conflict (Romans 5:1).
 2. He resolves racial conflicts (Ephesians 2:14-18).
- II. Persecution: We are blessed when we accept persecution as Christians (Matthew 5:10-12).
 - A. *Blessed* – God blesses those who are persecuted for doing what is right (5:10; 1 Peter 4:12-14).
 - B. *Great is your reward* – God rewards in heaven those who endure persecution because of Christ (5:11-12).
 - Expect to be insulted and lied about as Christians (5:11).
 - Expect persecution like the prophets and Jesus Christ Himself (5:12; John 15:18-21).
 - Expect personal peace in persecution through Christ who overcomes the world (John 16:33)