MATTHEW
THE LIFE AND TEACHING OF JESUS

MAKARIOS
THE BEATITUDES

Persecuted January 12, 2020

Matthew 5:10
"Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." (NIV)

BLESSED: Makarios (3107) — spoken in the beatitudes of those receiving God's favor, regardless of what their circumstances may be.

Are: "Jesus' followers will actualize these ethical and moral ideals, not as a means of entering the kingdom but as an outgrowth of the kingdom life that will be theirs through the empowering of the Spirit." (Wilkins)

Persecuted means "to follow or press hard after, literally to pursue as one does a fleeing enemy. It means to chase, harass, vex and pressure and was used for chasing down criminals…speaks of an intensity of effort leading to a pursue with earnestness and diligence in order to lay hold of and oppress or harass"

Righteousness means "being proper or right in the sense of being fully justified or in accordance with what God requires. In its simplest sense this word conveys the idea of conformity to a standard or norm."

There is a huge difference between being blessed for being persecuted and being blessed for being persecuted BECAUSE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.