

The Road to Recovery  
Part #8 – “God is with the Persecuted”  
Sunday November 29, 2009  
Audio Available at [www.kingstreet.org/audio](http://www.kingstreet.org/audio)

*"Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.  
Blessed are the meek,  
for they will inherit the earth.  
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for  
righteousness, for they will be filled.  
Blessed are the merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.  
Blessed are the pure in heart,  
for they will see God.  
Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called sons of God.  
Blessed are those who are persecuted because  
of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of  
heaven. (Matthew 5:3-10)*

→ The Beatitudes and the fallacy of the ...



→ Persecuted means “pursued for purposes of prosecution.”

1. Followers of Christ are persecuted by the **world** around the world

→ We’re given a warning (Luke 6:26A)

→ We’re told what to expect (2 Timothy 3:12)

→ We’re shown an example (Matthew 2:13-18; John 15:18-21)

2. Followers of Christ are persecuted by **religious** people for **religious** reasons

→ Jesus chief prosecutors were the chief priests and teacher’s of the Law. (Matthew 26 & 27)

→ The early Christians were persecuted and prosecuted by Religious Jews (Acts 6 & Acts 9)

3. Followers of Christ are persecuted in the **21<sup>st</sup> Century** Western World in **21<sup>st</sup> Century** **western** ways.

→ **Misunderstood** (Assumptions and stereotypes)

→ **Mistreated** (Left out and passed over)

→ **Maligned** (Judged and criticized)