

# Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1608

December 14, 2025

Luke 6:22-23, “<sup>22</sup>*Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you [from their company], and shall reproach [you], and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake.* <sup>23</sup>*Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward [is] great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets.”*

There will be times we suffer persecution at the hands of those outside the LORD. It might not be a physical persecution like the prophets of old. It often is subtle and hidden. People will be against us because we are for the basic and plain moral teachings of the Bible.

People are passed up for consideration for a job or promotion because of standing on the side of truth. The world has cloaked wickedness by using such terms as being inclusive, diverse, and open. They try to “candy coat” sin, but sin is still sin and forever will be.

Perhaps the persecution goes even beyond a silent reviling of us. People might even express how we are “old fashioned” and how the

Bible is out of date. They might even say things like we are prejudice because we are against sin. Things like this can hurt, and there is no way you can persuade them otherwise.

The people spoke overtly false things against Jesus as well. In Luke 20 they had asked Jesus about giving tribute to Caesar. He asked to see a penny and then asked whose inscription was on it. It was Caesar's. Then in Luke 20:25 Jesus plainly and clearly said, “*Render therefore unto Caesar the things which be Caesar's, and unto God the things which be God's.*” He could not have been more clear.

At Jesus's trial, one of the accusations brought against Him is recorded in Luke 23:2, “*And they began to accuse him, saying, We found this [fellow] perverting the nation, and forbidding to give tribute to Caesar, saying that he himself is Christ a King.*”

They overtly lied about what Jesus had said. They said Jesus had forbidden to give to Caesar. It was very much the opposite of what Jesus had said. He did not respond to them or answer this. There was no use. Their minds were set against Him. No amount of truth would ever persuade them

The same type things will happen to us. People will accuse us of being against people because we are against sin. The complete opposite is the case. We are very much for the people and greatly desire they be saved. That is why we are against the sin. We might even be accused of having sinned ourselves. We all have, but that matters not when we are forgiven.

When others speak such against us, Jesus says we need to leap for joy. This is the only time in the Bible where Jesus says to leap for joy. We can leap for joy because when words are spoken against us for Jesus's sake, our reward is great in Heaven.

—Marty Edwards♦

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Sunday 9am,10am,12pm; 6pm (Online) — Wednesday 6pm (Online)

# News

—Continue to remember Steve Seaton, Brad Terry, Enola Zigler, Ken & Erin Davis, Becky Hatcher, Richard & Meg Connolly, Larry Compton, Linda Terry, Rick Gibbs, Sandy Duncan, Jerry Reynolds, Lauren Candela, Alice Vanderstoep, Breanna Riffle, Karen Burd, Betty Franklin, and Rhonda Ford.

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Ezekiel 46:9, “*But when the people of the land shall come before the LORD in the solemn feasts, he that entereth in by the way of the north gate to worship shall go out by the way of the south gate; and he that entereth by the way of the south gate shall go forth by the way of the north gate: he shall not return by the way of the gate whereby he came in, but shall go forth over against it.*”

When the people came to the solemn feasts and entered the gates to worship, they were to go out the opposite direction. If they entered by way of the north gate, they were to exit by the south gate. If entering by the south gate, they were to exit by the north.

This certainly served a practical reason such as controlling the flow of people during busy times, but I think there is a much greater spiritual reason for the LORD having the people to do this. By always leaving the opposite direction, they never backtracked. They were always going the same direction.

A lesson to be gleaned from this is that we are never to backtrack in our service to the LORD. We are to move in one direction and not to turn back. Jesus said in Luke 9:26, “*...No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.*” We are to press onward in our service to the LORD. We are not to look back.

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Sunday, December 7, 2025		
Classes	16	John 12:1-11
Preaching	33	The temple of God and the Holy Spirit
Contribution	\$1510.00	
Afternoon	9	Romans 7:1-25; Singing (Psalm 47:1-9)

## Bible Quiz

Jesus came to Bethany six days before what?

Last Week's Answer—Fire (Exodus 9:23)

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The people the LORD told to exit the opposite direction were always progressing forward while there to worship. Let's do the same, and our final destination will be Heaven.

—Marty Edwards♦

## —God's Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)