

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1174

July 30, 2017

Luke 6:22-23, “²²*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.* ²³*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.*”

It's not uncommon to see people leap for joy when a ball team wins or at the end of some event when there is jubilation. It's interesting that the only time in the Bible we are told to leap for joy is in the above verse. The leaping we are told to do is not during a time of jubilation. It's a time that would cause many people to be hurt and to crumble emotionally.

I've thought much about the above verses the past few days. We all know how sin is paraded in front of us like it is a wonderful thing. In reality, it's an abomination that is condemning people to lose their eternal souls.

It's not enough that people openly practice and proclaim such as

Munfordville Church of Christ
104 Back St — P.O. Box 322
Munfordville, KY 42765
(270) 524-3345
www.munfordvillechurchofchrist.com

Marty Edwards, Minister
577 Possum Trot Road
Hardyville, KY 42746
(270) 528-1298
martywedwards@gmail.com

Sunday 9 AM & 6 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

wonderful and good. Now, we are being called “wicked” because of our Biblical stance on such.

I recently read an article that stated a very wealthy (the article used the term “ultra wealthy”) man was using his wealth to go after states and Christians who did not support same gender marriages. He said he was going to “punish the wicked.”

It's not enough that people openly practice sins and promote them, but now there are groups of people that hope to “punish” us. I'm not sure what this punishment will entail. At first it will no doubt be social pressure on all fronts. Even now many large companies would never consider hiring a person, and certainly not promote them, if they do not openly support these abominations.

With time it could possibly become more aggressive. They could try to get states and the federal government to deny social programs, insurance, and other support. Could there be a time that we are even denied access to clean water, electricity, and access to the public roads? In time they might deny a driver's license unless we adhere to their abominations. Maybe they would want to deny us access to cell phones and the Internet to keep us from our “wicked ways” which ways are actually Biblical truth.

This is was talked about in Revelation in that the beast would not do business with those who did not have the mark of the beast. This probably was referring to a citizen of the Roman Empire who was in “good standing” with them, adhering to their sinful ways.

“Punishing” us is not as far fetched as one might think. Already in Kentucky one was jailed for a week for refusing to perform such weddings. In other states one couple was heavily fined because they refused to bake a cake in their bakery for such a wedding and a few ministers had their sermons subpoenaed to see if they were speaking against such. These last few events have already happened. Much more will come. They are planning to punish us.

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News

—Continue to remember **Sally Marshall, Jewell Watkins, Jean Coffey, Alice Thrasher, Steve Seaton, and Brad Terry. Betty Franklin**, the mother of Stewart, had a pacemaker installed Friday. She is doing quite well.

—We extend our sympathies to the family of **Don Bunnell** who passed away last week. He was a long-time faithful minister of the Church. He had visited here a few years ago. His sister, Elizabeth Borders, died only five days before him.

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I do know that the Bible lets us plainly know that we will suffer persecution and people will become more evil. Paul wrote in II Timothy 3:12-13, ¹²*“Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. ¹³But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.”*

What then are we to do? The very next verse tells us. II Timothy 3:14 says, “But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them.” We are simply to continue in the Biblical truths we have learned. No matter what the world may say or do, when we continue firm in the truth, we can leap for joy and have a great reward in Heaven.

Revelation 20:9 in talking about the evil upon the earth says, *“And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.”* Evil is going to compass us about and close in very close to us. But, the LORD will not let them consume and overtake us. Fire will come down from Heaven and devour them. This is most likely talking about the destruction that comes at the end of the world.

Leap for joy. Your reward in Heaven is great.

—Marty Edwards❖

Sunday, July 23, 2017		
Classes	15	I Thessalonians 3:8-4:6
Preaching	24	II Kings 2:1-11
Contribution	\$628.00	
Evening	20	Revelation 16:1-21
Wednesday, July 26, 2017		
Classes	19	Hosea 14:1-19

July 23 (AM) Chris Burd (Horse Cave, KY); Bobby & Lisa Edwards (Munfordville, KY);
 Visitors— Lourdes Ochoa (Malacatan, Guatemala)
 July 26 (Wed) Michaela Sievers (Gelsenkirchen, Germany)

Bible Quiz

A great voice out of the temple spoke to seven what?

Last Week’s Answer— the song of Moses and the song of the Lamb (Revelation 15:3)

—This Wednesday evening we will begin a study of the book of Joel. Lessons are in the back or can be found on our website.

—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)