

Rejoicing Produces Grace!

Because you have chosen to be a Kingdom person, because you desire to serve Jesus with all of your heart, soul, mind and strength, this automatically places you in a special category! You are the Blessed! Jesus declared "*Blessed are those who put Me first in their life.*" Such a blessing puts you on a collision course with the world, the flesh, and the devil. God's way of blessing may appear quite different than what you may think. When people revile you and persecute you even to the point of speaking lies about you because of the life of Jesus in you, Jesus declared "*You are blessed!*" You need to know in advance, when persecutions come, when lying accusations are made against you, that they are not attacking you. No, they are attacking the Word that resides in you! The Devil is trying to stop that Word, that incorruptible seed that is growing within your heart! Consequently, when the reviling begins, we are to rejoice! We don't rejoice because of the persecution, but rather, we rejoice because we are a part of Christ Jesus! And this rejoicing will negate, defeat, and override every assignment made against you. Look at Matthew 5:12,

"Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The word for rejoice here is the same Greek word from which we get our word for grace! Grace produces joy and delight! Does it not? That's what the word CHARIS literally means. We rejoice and grace comes! So when difficult things arise before you because of your love and commitment to Jesus, don't retaliate. That's exactly what the devil wants you to do! No, no! Why not negate, defeat, and override every negative assignment by rejoicing instead? Great grace will then come! First Peter 4:14 writes,

"If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you."

The devil comes to steal your joy. He tries to get your eyes looking upon the problem. But don't fall for his lies. Keep your eyes fixed upon Jesus! Only then does the glory of God rest upon you! Glory will always outshine and outlast any suffering!

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