

**Beatitudes**  
**What The Bible Teaches About Being Blessed**

**BLESSED IS THE MAN WHO IS  
NOT OFFENDED IN JESUS**

Text: Matthew 11:6

Introduction:

1. The biblically blessed are those who depend upon God.
2. They inherit the promise made to Abraham by submission to God.
3. The Beatitudes found in the Sermon on the Mount describe the character traits necessary to transition from the Law of Moses to the Gospel of Christ.
4. Throughout the New Testament, other beatitudes describe the heart of one who is a faithful member of the Lord's kingdom – his church.
5. These blessed attitudes will enable one to make it to the eternal kingdom of God in Heaven.

I. Background of the Beatitude (11:1-5)

- A. John the Baptist had been arrested for preaching the truth with boldness and honesty – even to Herod.
- B. In prison, John heard about Jesus' raising from the dead the son of a widow in the town of Nain (Luke 7:11-18).
- C. John sent two of his disciples to Jesus to ask if He truly was the long-awaited Messiah.
- D. Jesus first answered by acting – He healed the sick, cast out demons, and gave sight to the blind (Luke 7:21).
- E. Following His action, Jesus answered with words.
  1. He told John's disciples to remind John of the many miracles Jesus had performed.
  2. These wonders were a demonstration of Jesus' power and divinity.
  3. However, they were also the fulfillment of prophecy (Isaiah 35).
  4. Jesus also included the fact that He preached the Gospel to the poor as proof of His deity (cf. Isaiah 61:1-3; Luke 4:21-22).
- F. Though John had doubts, Jesus answered his questions with evidence on which John could build his faith.

II. Beauty of the Beatitude (11:6)

- A. Following this, Jesus stated the Beatitude – “Blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.”
  1. The Greek word for ‘be offended’ is *skandalidzo* (σκανδαλιζω).
  2. The English word “scandal” or “scandalize” comes from this root.
  3. It means, “To trip up, entrap; to put a stumbling block or impediment in the way; to entice to sin; to cause to fall away.”
- B. This statement contained encouragement to John not to doubt (and perhaps a slight rebuke for his doubting).
- C. The blessed man is not caused to stumble by Jesus – His identity, nature, works, doctrine, or kingdom.
- D. Yet there were many who were offended by Him.

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1. This was prophesied (Isaiah 28:16; Psalm 118:22-23; cf. Matthew 21:42; Mark 12:10; Luke 20:17-18; Acts 4:11-12; Romans 9:33; 1 Peter 2:6-8).
  2. Some stumbled at His humanity (Matthew 13:55-57).
  3. Some stumbled at His teaching (Matthew 15:12-14; Luke 4:23-29).
  4. Some stumbled at His death (Matthew 26:31).
  5. Some stumbled at His kingdom (John 6:60-66).
  6. Some stumbled at His gospel (Romans 9:32-33; 1 Peter 2:6-8).
  7. Some stumbled at His wisdom (1 Corinthians 1:22-23).
  8. Some stumbled at His suffering (Matthew 13:21; John 16:1-4).
- E. The Christian must guard against being offended by Jesus.

III. **Boldness of the Beatitude** (11:7-15)

- A. The blessed man is not caused to stumble by Jesus, for he is not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ (Romans 1:16-17).
- B. He courageously proclaims the truth no matter the sacrifice required.
- C. He finds his place and does his duty despite the cost.
- D. He stands firmly in the face of persecution.
- E. He hears, believes, and obeys the Word of God – faithful unto death.

Conclusion:

1. Salvation is found only by those who are not offended in Jesus.
2. Their devotion to Him and commitment to His Truth enables them to be faithful unto death.
3. The Christian must never be ashamed of the Lord or His Gospel!