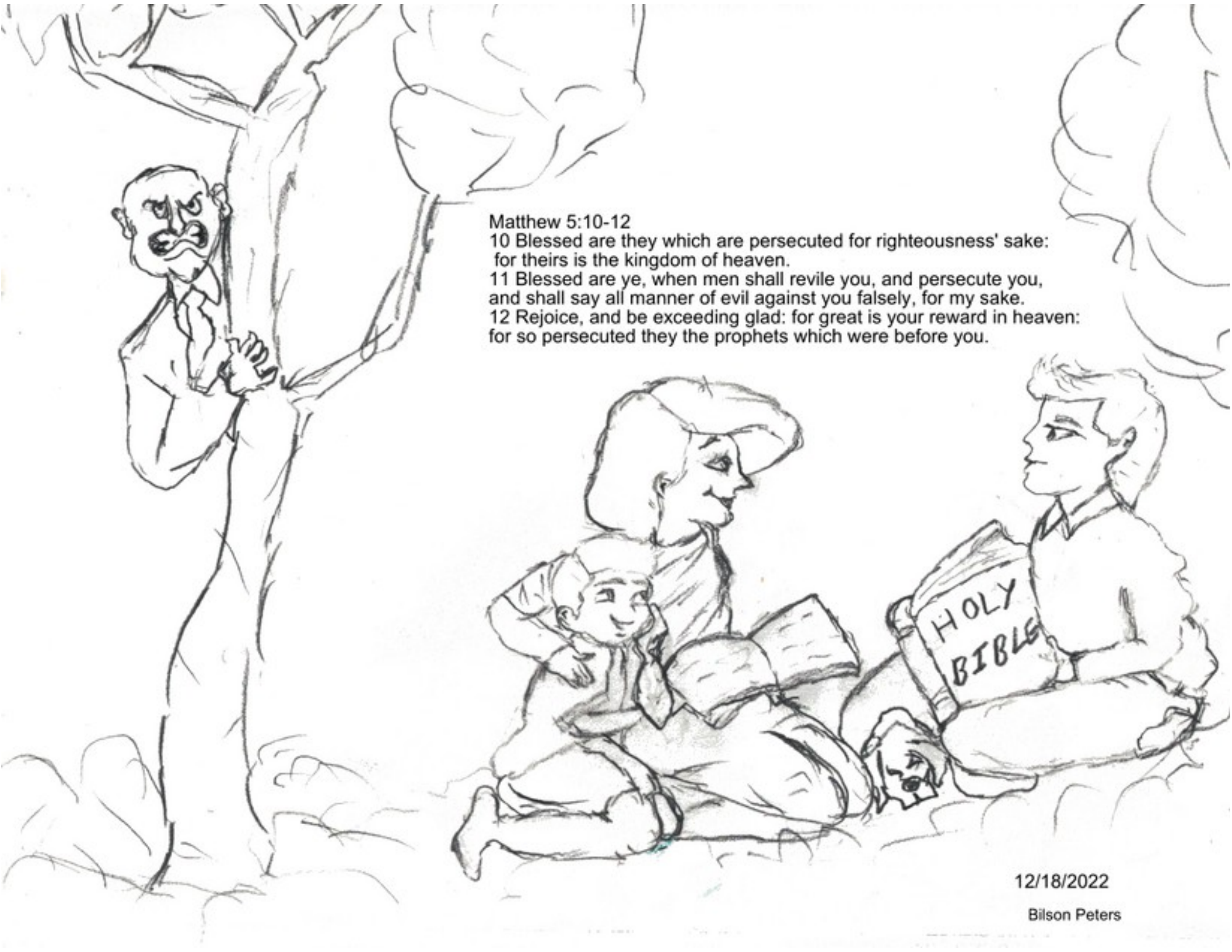


The Seven Seals

Ref	Description	Speaker
6:1-8	Four Horsemen 1. Antichrist 2. War 3. Famine 4. Death and Hell	Four Living Creatures from the throne room
6:9-11	5. Martyrdom	The martyrs
6:12-17	6. Great day of God's wrath	Important, impotent people
7:1-17	(Answer to 6:17)	Angels, believers
8:1-5	7. Epiphany	Trumpets



Matthew 5:10-12

10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake:
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you,
and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven:
for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

12/18/2022

Bilson Peters

9b the word of God ... the testimony of the Lamb

Rev. 1:2 Who bare record μαρτυρέω G3140 of the **word of God**, and of the **testimony of Jesus Christ**, and of all things that he saw.

Rev. 1:9 I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the **word of God**, and for the **testimony of Jesus Christ**.

Rev. 12:17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep τηρέω G5085 the **commandments of God**, and have ἔχω G2192 the **testimony of Jesus Christ**.

Rev. 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the **witness [testimony] of Jesus, and for the word of God**, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; ...

Note the distinct verbs in 12:17:

- *keep* word/commandments
- *have* testimony

Word or commandment of God:

- Subjective genitive
- Keep = obey

The testimony of the Lamb/Jesus Christ

Vocabulary:

- μαρτυρία G3141: testimony, witness, record
- μαρτύς G3144: witness(er), martyr
- μαρτυρέω G3140: bear witness, bear record, testify

“Testimony of X” is always subjective genitive:

Psa. 19:7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the **testimony of the LORD** is **sure** πιστός G4103, making wise the simple.

John 1:19 And this is the **record of John**, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou?

1John 5:9 If we receive the **witness of men**, the **witness of God** is greater: for this is the **witness of God** which he hath testified of his Son.

Our Lord as a witness in John’s writings:

John 3:11 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our **witness** .

John 7:7 The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I **testify** of it, that the works thereof are evil.

John 18:37 Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should **bear witness** unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.

The faithful witness (cf. Psa 19:7)

Rev. 21:5 And he said unto me, Write: for these **words** are true and **faithful**.

Rev. 22:6 And he said unto me, These **sayings** are **faithful** and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done.

What can you do with a Testimony?

1John 5:9 If we **receive** the **witness** of men, the **witness** of God is greater: for this is the **witness** of God which he hath **testified** of his Son. 10 He that believeth on the Son of God **hath** the **witness** in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he **believeth** not the **record** that God gave of his Son. 11 And this is the **record**, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

Receive: initial response to the message

Have: ongoing agreement with the message

Believe: can be either

- Act 16:31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, [initial response]
- 1Ti 4:12 Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the **believers**, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. [ongoing faith]

Other Examples of the Word and the Testimony

	Word/Command	Testimony
Gen 2:17	But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it:	for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.
Gen 3:4	(not challenged!)	Ye shall not surely die
Mark 1:15	Repent	Believe the gospel

Should the Martyrs pray for vengeance?

Luk 23:33 And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left. 34 Then said Jesus, **Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.**

Act 7:59 And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. 60 And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, **Lord, lay not this sin to their charge.** And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

Psa 79:1 A Psalm of Asaph. O God, the **heathen** are come into **thine** inheritance; **thy** holy temple have they defiled; they have laid Jerusalem on heaps.

2 The dead bodies of **thy** servants have they given to be meat unto the fowls of the heaven, **the flesh of thy saints unto the beasts of the earth.**

3 Their blood have they shed like water round about Jerusalem; and there was none to bury them.

4 We are become a reproach to our neighbours, a scorn and derision to them that are round about us.

5 **How long, LORD?** wilt thou be angry for ever? shall thy jealousy burn like fire?

6 Pour out thy wrath upon the heathen that have not known thee, and upon the kingdoms that have not called upon thy name. ...

10 Wherefore should the **heathen** say, Where is their God? **let him be known among the heathen in our sight by the revenging of the blood of thy servants which is shed.**

References and Details on 6:10

O Lord δεσπότης G1203

Contrast κύριος G2962

OT: “Lord God,” אֲדֹנָי יְהוִה,
δεσπότης κύριος

holy and true (genuine)

Rev. 3:7 And to the angel of
the church in Philadelphia
write; These things saith he
that is **holy**, he that is **true**,

...

John 18:31 It is not lawful for
us to put any man to death,

dost thou not ... avenge our
blood

Lk 8:7 And **shall not God
avenge** his own elect, which
cry day and night unto him,
though he bear long with
them? 8 I tell you that he will
avenge them speedily.

Commands:

Mat 5:44 But I say unto you, Love your
enemies, bless them that curse you, do good
to them that hate you, and **pray for them**
which despitefully use you, and persecute
you;

1 Pet 2:23 Who, when he was reviled, reviled
not again; when he suffered, he threatened
not; but **committed himself** to him that
judgeth righteously:

Rom 12:19 Dearly beloved, avenge not
yourselves, but rather **give place unto
[God's] wrath**: for it is written, Vengeance is
mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. [Deut 32:35]