

# Matthew 10:40 to End; 11:1. He Pronounces Blessings on Those Who Show Kindness to His Disciples.

by Favell Lee Mortimer

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*The sermon emphasizes the importance of showing kindness to Christ's disciples, motivated by a desire to serve the Lord, and the promise of a rich blessing for those who do so.*

**Scripture:** Matthew 10:40, Matthew 25:40, Galatians 6:10, Philippians 4:19, Hebrews 6:10, 1 Peter 4:9

**Topics:** "Christian Hospitality", "Persecution Support"

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## Description

Favell Lee Mortimer preaches about the importance of showing kindness and hospitality to God's servants, emphasizing the motive behind our actions. He highlights that true blessings come from receiving and supporting God's messengers and righteous individuals, regardless of their status or popularity. Mortimer also reflects on the challenges faced by early Christians in showing kindness, even in the face of persecution, and encourages believers to support and defend one another for the sake of Christ.

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## Transcript

The Lord Jesus had forbidden his apostles to take anything with them in their journey, either bag, (that is, bag of provisions,) or money in their purses; and He had desired them to go to the house of the most worthy person in each town, though that person might also be the poorest. It must have been a great comfort to the apostles to know that a rich blessing would rest upon those who received them into their houses, and that their kindness would be repaid at the resurrection of the just.

Paul felt this comfort when the Philippians sent gifts to him in prison. He could not repay them, but he said, "My God will supply all your need according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 4:19.)

But is it not possible that a wicked man might receive a servant of Christ and treat him kindly? Yes, doubtless it is possible. Would he receive a heavenly reward? We must consider the motive of every action, before we can pronounce it to be good or bad. It is only those who receive a prophet in the name of a prophet, (that is, because he is a prophet,) who shall receive a prophet's reward. He who receives a prophet because he is an admired preacher, or an amiable man, or an old acquaintance, he will not receive a prophet's reward for his hospitality. The motive in receiving him must be, because he is a

servant of Christ. If that is the motive, all faithful prophets will be treated with kindness, and not only some favorite prophet. The blessing, we perceive, is pronounced not only on those who receive prophets, but also on those who receive righteous men who are not prophets; and also on those who are kind to Christ's little ones, or to the weakest believers.

In these days it is often difficult to discover whether any kindness we show to God's people proceeds from the right motive. It is now so easy a duty, that many practice it, who would not incur any danger, or make any sacrifice for the sake of Christ and his people. In former days the case was different. Then it was often dangerous to show kindness to true Christians. Those who visited them in prison, or who harbored them in their houses, drew upon themselves persecution. Even in this country, at the time people were beginning to turn from popery, both men and women were often put to the rack to induce them to confess the names of those who had been kind to them. If a person were known to have sent money to a poor prisoner, or if he were seen giving him a loaf through the prison bars, the enemies of the truth would send to apprehend him. It was not an easy duty in those days to befriend the people of God. Few, if any, would do it who did not love Christ sincerely.

But even in these happier days, some of the saints are held in general contempt. If we countenance and encourage all those who serve our Master, we also shall be despised. But if we would be faithful to Christ, we must not consider to what sect or party men belong, but only, "Do they serve our Lord?" and if they do, we ought to receive them, and help them; we ought to defend their characters when aspersed, to bear with their infirmities, and to forgive their offences. This will be a sign that we should not have despised the Lord Jesus, if we had lived when he was upon earth. The feelings of the true believer are well expressed by a Christian poet, in the following lines--

Your people by the world abhorred,  
I for my people take,  
And serve the servants of my Lord,  
For their dear Master's sake.

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Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/favell-lee-mortimer/matthew-1040-to-end-111-he-pronounces-blessings-on-those-who-show-kindness-to-hi/>

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