

The Blueprint Session #4 – The Big Payback

Ezra 1:4 (NASB95)

4 'Every survivor, at whatever place he may live, let the men of that place support him with silver and gold, with goods and cattle, together with a freewill offering for the house of God which is in Jerusalem.'

Matthew 5:4 (NASB95)

4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

QUOTE:

"Shake off the self-pity, shake off the defeat and get ready for God to do something new. He is going to pay you back for every injustice."

- Joel Osteen -

Pastor's Big Point:

Each one of us has faced an experience in which we felt picked on, overlooked, or forgotten—but God is the ultimate redeemer. He makes it His business to bless every person that feels like they are living in exile and separated. God is going to bless those who felt forgotten but kept serving. He's got a blessing for those who continued to love the house of the Lord and never stopped fighting. Those who are instrumental in building up the house of God unselfishly and have a heart to ensure His name is established—He has a special blessing for us. The big payback is coming our way!

Table Discussion

Movie, book, personal, or otherwise: What's your favorite payback story?



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Pastor's Teaching Points

Pastor Sho wants to us to rate ourselves. *How is your house fire?* Is it bare, burning, or blazing? It doesn't matter how long you've been saved, keeping a housefire for God is a continual thing. Our salvation is not necessarily about what we feel, it's about what we know. We must know the truth of His word and keep the fire going accordingly.

- **1. BLESSED.**Matthew 5: 3-5 (NKJV) 3 Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. 5 Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth.
- **2. EXCLUDED.** *Ezra 2:62 (NASB95)* 62 These searched among their ancestral registration, but they could not be located; therefore, they were considered unclean and excluded from the priesthood.
- **3.** HONORED. *Ezra* 3:3–5 (*NASB95*) 3 So they set up the altar on its foundation, for they were terrified because of the peoples of the lands; and they offered burnt offerings on it to the LORD, burnt offerings morning and evening. 4 They celebrated the Feast of Booths, as it is written, and offered the fixed number of burnt offerings daily, according to the ordinance, as each day required; 5 and afterward there was a continual burnt offering, also for the new moons and for all the fixed festivals of the Lord that were consecrated, and from everyone who offered a freewill offering to the LORD.

Reference Scriptures: Consider the following scriptures and how they tie into or affect our lesson.

Jeremiah 51:56 NASB95

"For the destroyer is coming against her, against Babylon. And her mighty men will be captured, their bows are shattered; for the Lord is a God of recompense. He will fully repay.



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Discussion Questions:

- 1. What differences have you experienced between receiving the comfort of people versus receiving the comfort of God? How so?
- 2. As a Believer, do you think it is mean or vindictive to exclude those who do not have your best interests in mind?
- 3. What strategies can we put in place to make sure we are honoring God more than we are giving credit to our fears or negative experiences?