

St Marina beating the devil with a hammer

THE DEVIL'S 'BEATITUDES"

Rev. Archmandrite Maximos Epitropia of the Holy Sepulcher Jerusalem Patriarchate

If the devil were to write his "beatitudes", they would probably go something like this:

- 1. Blessed are those who are too tired, too busy, too distracted to spend a few hours a week with their fellow Christians in worship they are my best workers.
- 2. Blessed are those Christians who wait to be asked and expect to be thanked I can use them.
- 3. Blessed are the touchy who stop going to church they are my missionaries.
- 4. Blessed are the troublemakers they shall be called my children.
- 5. Blessed are the complainers I'm all ears to them.
- 6. Blessed are those who are bored with the priest's mannerisms and mistakes for they get nothing out of his sermons.

- 7. Blessed is the church member who expects to be invited to his own church for he is part of the problem instead of the solution.
- 8. Blessed are those who gossip for they shall cause strife and divisions that please me.
- 9. Blessed are those who are easily offended for they will soon get angry and quit.
- 10. Blessed are those who do not give their offering to carry on God's work for they are my helpers.
- 11. Blessed is he who professes to love God but hates his brother and sister for he shall be with me forever.
- 12. Blessed are you who, when you read this and think it is about other people and not yourself I've got you too.

