

The Beatitudes

- paraphrased by Jeanne Sumiko Wong

I see you when you're at the end of your rope. When you have nothing left I am here with you.

I see you when you feel you've lost what is most dear to you. In that place, you can know that I am embracing you.

I see you when you're content with just who you are—no more, no less. That's when you know who you are cannot be defined by the white culture standards.

I see you when you've worked up a good appetite for God - divine mama. I am the meal that will satisfy you like no other. Sit in my presence often.

I see you when you care. At the moment of being 'care-full,' you find yourself being cared for.

I see you when you get your inside world—your mind and heart—put right. Then you can see the divine all around you in all things.

I see you when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That's when you discover who you really are, and your place in God's family.

I see you when your commitment to God provokes persecution. The persecution drives you even deeper into God's kingdom.

Not only that—***I see you*** every time people put you down or throw you out or speak lies about you to discredit me. What it means is that the truth is too close for comfort and they are uncomfortable. You can be glad when that happens—give a cheer, even!—for though they don't like it, I do! And all heaven applauds. And know that you are in good company. My prophets and prophetesses and witnesses have always gotten into this kind of trouble.