

Matthew 5:1-12

The Beatitudes

Sermon on the mount (5:1-7:29)

- Setting
 - Jesus settled at Capernaum (4:13)
- Purpose
 - The sermon is Jesus' instruction about life and the Kingdom of Heaven
- Who is this teaching intended?
 - Crowds and Disciples (v1-2)
 - He ascends the mountain

The Beatitudes (5:3-12)

- Character of the Beatitudes
 - Sermon begins with gospel, not law. Jesus is telling of blessings, not issuing laws.
- Analysis of the beatitudes
 - The best way we can study these beatitudes would be to work through them one by one.

Blessed are the poor in spirit

- The Meaning
 - Poor in the Bible include these aspects
- “Theirs is the kingdom of heaven” is not a free ride to heaven
- The Application
 - If you are going to enter the kingdom of heaven, you must become poor in spirit. Humbling yourself before God.

Blessed are those who mourn

- The Meaning
 - The people of God who mourn should mourn for comfort
- The promise is that you will be comforted
 - We will be consoled above all when God wipes away our tears
- The Application- The focus of mourning
 - The mourning that will be comforted is of those who understand the reasoning for the mourning

Blessed are the meek

- The meaning
 - Meek are those who have gentleness and self control
- The Promise- They will possess the land
- Application
 - How does one become meek?

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness

- The Meaning
 - Hunger and thirst constantly cry out for satisfaction
- It describes their passion in life
- The application
 - The truly spiritual person will long for the Lord

Blessed are the merciful

- Meaning
 - Showing mercy to others includes both the forgiveness of the sinner and compassion for the suffering and the needy.
- They are called blessed because they place showing mercy above their own rights
- Application:
 - People who know more of God's mercy will be merciful

Blessed are the pure in heart

- The Meaning
 - The “heart” is used in the Bible for the will, the choices.
- Nothing short of a change in heart will bring about a pure heart
- The Application
 - It begins when we are baptized and our sins are washed away. It continues as we live every day for God.

Blessed are the peacemakers

- The meaning
 - God's plan of redemption is to provide peace with Him.
- Those who are peacemakers understand what true peace is
- The Application
 - We are to spread the Gospel of peace to the entire world

Blessed are those who are persecuted.

- The meaning
 - When people go against the world and live a life of gentleness and meekness, they will run into oppression.
- The Beatitude is for those who suffer persecution for righteousness sake.
- The application
 - We should simply be living for Christ in this world.

Blessed are you when other revile you

- In the old testament the prophets were persecuted because of their faithfulness to God.
- Now Jesus says that His disciples will be persecuted because of their faithfulness to Him.

Matthew 5:13-16

- Salt of earth
- Light of the world