



I. INTRO

As Matthew 5 begins, Jesus presents what we call The Beatitudes. In a sense, they could be considered The Preamble to The Constitution for His Kingdom. His new way of life would bring blessings to His followers.

Matthew 5:1-2 (NKJV) And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying:

II. ³ Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

- A. Blessed = fortunate, well-off, supremely blessed
- B. Poor in spirit = spiritually destitute, bankrupt within

1 Corinthians 3:9 (PHILLIPS) In this work, we work with God, and that means that you are a field under God's cultivation, or, if you like, a house being built to His plan.

III. ⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted.

- A. Tragedy and difficulties in life come to everyone
- B. We look at the world at large and mourn for the effects that sin has produced

Hosea 4:1-3 (NLT) Hear the word of the LORD, O people of Israel! The LORD has brought charges against you, saying: "There is no faithfulness, no kindness, no knowledge of God in your land. You make vows and break them; you kill and steal and commit adultery. There is violence everywhere—one murder after another. That is why your land is in mourning, and everyone is wasting away. Even the wild animals, the birds of the sky, and the fish of the sea are disappearing.

- Jesus encountered many who needed comfort

John 14:16 (AMPC) And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengthener, and Standby), that He may remain with you forever—

IV. ⁵ Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.

- A. Meekness is not weakness
- B. To be meek is to be humble and teachable
- C. It's surrendering our will to the will of God

Psalms 25:8-10 (KJV) Good and upright is the LORD: therefore will he teach sinners in the way. The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way. All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.

- D. Meekness pictures individuals who have learned to submit their will to a higher authority

Matthew 11:28-29 (TPT) "Are you weary, carrying a heavy burden? Then come to me. I will refresh your life, for I am your oasis. Simply join your life with mine. Learn my ways and you'll discover that I'm gentle, humble, easy to please. You will find refreshment and rest in me.

Hall of Fame basketball coach John Wooden taught players: "It's what you learn after you know it all that counts."

V. ⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled.



- A. Hunger and thirst are temporary, both in the natural and spiritual

Phil. 1:11 (NLT) May you always be filled with the fruit of your salvation—the righteous character produced in your life by Jesus Christ—for this will bring much glory and praise to God.

- B. It takes an effort on our part for us to remain satisfied

Psalms 34:10 (AMPC) The young lions lack food and suffer hunger, but they who seek (inquire of and require) the Lord [by right of their need and on the authority of His Word], none of them shall lack any beneficial thing.

VI. ⁷ Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy.

- A. A new way of life offers receiving and giving mercy

1 Peter 1:3 (ERV) Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has great mercy, and because of his mercy he gave us a new life. This new life brings us a living hope through Jesus Christ's resurrection from death.

- B. Giving mercy is also giving comfort

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 (NKJV) Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

VII. ⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.

- Being pure in heart is walking in the knowledge of God

"Sin is our enemy, and we are redeemed from it by the atoning blood; Satan is our enemy, and we are redeemed from him by the Redeemer's power; the world is our enemy, and we are redeemed from it by the Holy Spirit." – Charles Spurgeon

Romans 12:1-2 (MSG) So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

VIII. ⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God.

- Peacemakers seek to bring harmony in the midst of chaos, strife and contention

James 3:18 (NLT) And those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of righteousness.

IX. ¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

- Persecution is inevitable, but not without compensation

Matthew 5:11-12 (NKJV) Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.