

February 26, 2017

## The Blessings of the Kingdom

### *Matthew 5:3-12*

#### **The Blessings of the Kingdom** (5:3-12)

- The Sermon on the Mount is a revelation of the Life of Jesus Himself (**Matt. 5:17; 7:12; Luke 24:44**) as the King of God's Kingdom.
- Jesus fulfills (**Col. 2:17**) the meaning and application of the Law of Moses.
- The term *blessed* was a Title that referred to God Himself (**Mark. 14:61**).

*1 Tim. 1:11 ...the blessed God*

- To be *blessed* is to enjoy the personal presence of God Himself. This is the most basic benefit of being in His Kingdom.

*Gen. 1:28 ...and God blessed them*

*Eph 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens...*

- The 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of the blessings emphasize present day blessings, while the others are partially experienced now but to be fully realized on the Day Christ returns (**Rev. 21-22**).

**v. 3** *Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven*

- Those who know they have no personal Righteousness of their own.

**Rom 3:10-12** *There is no one righteous, not even one; 11 there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. 12 All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one.*

- Such recognition is not indigenous, but is revealed by the Spirit:

**John 16:8-9** *When [the Spirit] comes, He will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: 9 in regard to sin, because men do not believe in Me...*

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

- Those who grieve over the presence and practice of sin as members of Christ. As members of Christ, our reaction to our sin is to reflect God's reaction.

**2 Cor 7:11** *For see what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you, but also what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what punishment...*

**v. 5** *Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth*

- Those who are neither proud nor arrogant but humble themselves under the hand of God and are dependently obedient in everything.

**Matt 11:29** *...I am gentle and humble in heart...*

**Phil 2:5-8** *Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross...*

**v. 6** *Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied*

- Those who have a continual and passionate longing for the growth of God's Righteousness in their life.
- Those who have tasted of the blessing of the goodness of God's presence and must have more and more. **Ps.34:8**

**v. 7** *Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy*

- Those who show God's mercy to others because they have received mercy from God.

**Eph 2:4-6** *But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ— by grace you have been saved...*

- And this mercy has been poured out upon us at the highest price to God.

**Acts 2:23** *...Jesus [was], delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God...*

**v. 8** *Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God*

- Those who have a heart of single-minded devotion to God, whose desire is to please and honor God in all things.

**Ps 24:3-5** *Who may ascend the hill of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place? 4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false. 5 He will receive blessing from the Lord and vindication from God his Savior...*

**Ps 51:10** *Create in me a pure heart, O God...*

**v. 9** *Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God*

- Those who seek to share how to have peace with God as they pursue the peace of God in their own lives.

**Rom 5:1** *...since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ...*

**Phil 4:7** *...the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus*

**Col 3:15** *Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts...*

**John 14:27** *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you...*

**Gal 5:22** *...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace...*

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

- Those who are hated and persecuted by the world [the flesh and the devil] because they are the Righteousness of God through faith in Christ (**Rom.3:22**).

**Matt 10:18** *...you will be dragged before governors and kings for My sake...*

**Matt 24:9** *...you will be hated by all nations because of Me...*

**John 15:18** *If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated Me first*

**v. 11-13** *Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you*

- How those who are His are to respond to persecution...

**1 Peter 1:3-7**