

## “The Beatitudes (part 1)” *Matthew 5:1-12*

### Open:

- Blessed = To be **happy, happy**; to receive a double blessing.
  - This does not imply an easy life, but it means one will receive the joy of learning to be content in any situation; as well as an enjoyment of receiving the rewards for obedience.
- Many Christians do not receive the full benefit of the Christian life because they stop doing what God can bless because they are dissatisfied with the current circumstances.
  - Being a child of God does not eliminate your problems, it gives you access to special blessings while facing the difficulties of life.
- Joy in life comes by way of choosing to accept that the current circumstances were brought into my life by God; but a double blessing is received by those who choose to not only accept the current circumstances, but they also choose to obey during the times of difficulty.
  - Many Christians will accept that a problem has come into their life; but few Christians will obey God through the duration of the time of difficulty.
    - *Psalms 1 gives us a great example of living a “blessed” Christian life; as well as added insight to the mean of the word “Blessed”.*

### I. **Blessed, (happy, happy), are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.** vs. 3

- God wants us to understand faith is required to enjoy the Christian life to its fullest. We must understand that those who trust in earthly riches will not enjoy life. **James 1:5-12**
- God wants us to recognize the pitfall of allowing our carnal desires (lust) to dictate how we live our lives as Christians. We must recognize from where the good gifts in life come. **James 1:15-17**
- A. Understanding the Context of Matthew 5:3 **ILL**: *Mark 10:14-25*
  - i. The Bible is teaching us that if we are to enjoy, on earth, the things of God; we must humble ourselves and live as one who is **solely depended on God** to provide for our needs. Childlike faith.
  - ii. It is important to note that there is nothing wrong with being wealthy or having nice things.
  - iii. The Bible is not teaching us, in order to be a good Christian, you must be poor.
  - iv. One must however draw attention to the potential pitfalls of being wealthy. Those who have wealth tend to depend on things more than they do God.
- B. In Matt. 5:3, Jesus is putting emphasis on the importance of a focus on eternal riches. **ILL**: *1 Cor. 3:10-15*
  - i. We need to recognize that an individual cannot build a spiritual life out of carnal materials and reap eternal rewards. You must live your life God’s way to get God’s results.
  - ii. We are to understand that in order to enjoy both the physical life and the spiritual life to its fullest, one must live his life by the precepts that God has told us will yield enjoyment.
  - iii. We must recognize the importance of trusting in God for all our needs. To many Christians only trust in God when they see personal profit.
- C. We need to recognize that in life, money cannot buy what is ***most*** important. **ILL**: *Lk 16:19-25*
  - i. Salvation                      Joy                      Peace
  - ii. Eternal Rewards              Contentment              Satisfaction

## II. Blessed, (happy happy), are they that mourn for they shall be comforted. vs. 4

- We must recognize that there is an unexplainable joy that comes to those facing the “*times of mourning*” when they have the proper perspective of life. **Ps. 23**
  - **Teach your class, times of difficulty are unavoidable. You will not get through life without loss difficult circumstances, or hardships; but you can get through those times by trusting in God.**  
**Is. 26:3-4** “*Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. [4] Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength.*”
- A. We need to recognize that there is comfort for the child of God during a time of mourning, even if this mourning is brought on by our own selves (punishment for sin.) **I John 1:9** “*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*”
- i. Judgement never lasts forever.
  - ii. We have access to forgiveness and a restoration to the Father, during the time of punishment.
  - iii. There is a certain comfort during the time of punishment that comes to a child of God. They are reminded that they are still a child of God. **Prov. 3:11-12** “*My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction: [12] For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.*”
- B. **We shouldn't sorrow as those who have no hope.** **I Thess. 4:13-15** “*But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. [14] For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. [15] For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.*”
- i. The resurrection of those who have died will be as real as the resurrection of Jesus. **vs. 13-15**
  - ii. We are not to live with “*survivors guilt*”. We are to have peace of mind knowing that they are in God's care, and we will see them again someday. **vs. 15**
- C. We have been given the Holy Spirit “*The Comforter.*” **John 14:26** “*But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.*”
- i. God did not leave us on earth with out the presence of God. He left us the Holy Spirit to comfort us in our time of mourning.
  - ii. The Holy Sprit is the One who will recall to memory the promises of God and the principles which we are to live by during the times of mourning.

- D. One can receive comfort during the times of mourning by recognizing they will enjoy the times of rejoicing more. **Ps. 126:5-6** “*They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. [6] He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.*”
- i. The things that reap the most rewards in life will require the most amount of work. **ILL:** *There is a sorrow that comes during long days of work, but the joy comes at the end of the day knowing a job was completed and done right.*
  - ii. We need to recognize that hardships are precious to God and, as God’s children, we will enjoy those precious times even more during the times of harvest; but only if we remain faithful and obedient during the times of difficulty. **ILL:** *Patience, kindness, Joy, and compassion are often the sheaves people gain while sowing in tears.*
- E. **We will find strength in mourning by helping other people. II Cor. 1:4-6** “*Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. [5] For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ. [6] And whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation.*”
- i. We should not waste the time(s) of mourning. We can learn how to comfort others in their times of difficulty if we will remember how God comforted us. **vs. 4**
  - ii. The more times of difficulty one faces, as long as one faces them properly, will allow them to be a greater encouragement and help to others in their times of mourning. **vs. 5**
  - iii. Learn to face the trials looking to learn ways to help others who will face the same trial you are currently facing. **vs. 6**

**Close:**

- Choose to live a double blessed life (happy, happy) by predetermining to obey regardless of the difficulty.
- Choose to live your life focused what God calls valuable (eternal riches).
- Understand, you will not get through life without difficulty; but you can get through difficulty by trusting God.

### **Proverbs 3:5**

*“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.”*

---

### ***“Review Questions”***

1. What does the word *Blessed* mean? **Happy, Happy.**
2. How does the Bible teach us that we can get the most out of our life? **By depending solely on God.**
3. How can a Child of God get through times of difficulty? **By trusting God.**
4. We should not sorrow as those who have no **?????** **Hope.**
5. Where is strength during difficult times found? **By helping other people.**