

# The Sermon On The Mount. The Beatitudes

Matthew 5:1-12

## **INTRODUCTION**

In our study of Jesus's first recorded sermon, announcing the "preview & proclamation" of the "kingdom of heaven". Christ is clearly showing in the early part of this sermon, commonly refer to as the Beatitudes, that a new character must be sought to have a part of this "new kingdom". Spiritual in nature instead of the physical which the Jews were used to. In this kingdom the highest form of character must be desired and developed. In the "new Israel" nothing less will be accepted. Let us continue to examine traits every Christian must have to enter this kingdom and be accepted by Christ and His Father.

## **#4. "BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO HUNGER AND THIRST AFTER RIGHTEOUSNESS...for they shall be filled"**

- a. Intense longing, craving, starving for this "spiritual food & drink". A burning desire. Two deepest needs of man, food & drink. Suffer in hunger, thirst after, a strong and earnest desire. Of what? To be right with God!
- b. Enter by choice and desire of the heart! Civil kingdom, no choice physically born into it. Heart & mind desire to come into this kingdom. Sins forgiven and fellowship with God! This desire was always taught to god's people. **Psa.51:1, 2** even before the perfect sacrifice was offered. Longing desire to be right with God!
- c. Desire forgiveness of sins--Is this not our intense desire? **Eph.1:7**. Always taught. **Isa.55:1-3**, Going after materials of purchasing power to obtain. No! This is a spiritual kingdom! True fellowship with God--cannot be bought!
- d. **Rom.1:16,17**. In this new kingdom this craving is what draws man! "Unto everyone that believeth". Personal choice. Righteousness revealed in truth! Hear, believe, obey the gospel-- submit our hearts-- we accept the teaching of His word.
- e. **Rom.3:23-27**. Why do we hunger? Our sins cause us to be separated from Him. Redeeming power of the blood of the Lamb. Atoning sacrifice, by our faith in His blood. Choose to submit our sins to His blood.

Justified by grace. Declared his righteousness, by the sacrifice, and faith in His word.

f. **Rom.6:3,4**. Baptized into His death--contact His blood! My faith--brought me to this point of acceptance to His plan! **Rom.6:17**--obeyed from the heart! Form of doctrine. Righteousness, justification, and salvation must be desired greatly! Righteousness can only be found in His word. **Jno.14:15; 17:17**. Examples: David, **Psa.139:23,24; Psa.1:2**. His desire was to please God. Jesus: **Mt.26:42; Jno.4:34**.

g. What can hinder my "hungering & thirsting"? Lukewarmness won't be tolerated, **Rev.3:15,16**. Abundance of things can hinder my desire. **1 Tim.6:6-8**. Self-will attitudes. **Rom.10:3**. Just plain getting caught up in life! Meeting God on "my terms" will not cut it! Seeking after the things which can only satisfy that spiritual hunger & thirsting--God's word! **Jno.4:14-16; 6:48-51**. I must desire to be holy in all that I do! **1 Pet.1:15,16**. Half hearted--half way-- will not make it!

Going through the motions won't put us in the kingdom of heaven. Deep sincere craving to be right with God--must be motive for my coming to God. Why do some wait? Here is the answer--NO CRAVING of the heart! Not gotten by inheritance or rubbed off by others, it must be a deep burning desire that each person must develop for themselves! Do you study? Do you meditate? Do you have a desire for the word of God? If not, what will you do about it?

## **#5. "BLESSED ARE THE MERCIFUL, for they shall obtain mercy."**

a. Mercy--"*Pity, good will to relieve those who are in need; Active kindness for those in trouble. Feeling of pity seen in active service*". True and tender desire to help others--not to rule and have power over others. Not a carnal, political, or military kingdom. Seeks to help those in real needs. Look for these opportunities.

b. God's people always to have this type of Attitude. **Exo.22:21; Deut.23:19,20; Hos.6:6**. Civil kingdom under that those circumstances. **Exo.21**, did give strict laws and punishment for disobedient. Different law for strangers & brethren. Yet, kindness towards both. That a physical kingdom--Christ's is not.

c. Greatest mercy in God's kingdom? Forgiveness of sins. We must extend it to others also. **Mt.6:14,15**. This was in prophecy about the nature of this

kingdom, **Isa.55:3-5**. "Sure mercies of David". Everlasting covenant. A nation they did not know! One who would bring this kingdom and leader of that kingdom. Christ! Mercies of God shown towards David. Through the "seed of David" One would arise like David--giving endless mercies-Christ. The character of His kingdom!

d. **Acts 13:34,35**. Jesus raised from the dead. **13:38,39**. Forgiveness of sins, preached to you in fact by Christ! **Heb.8:12**. Kingdom not a literal army, but the church of the living God! It extends mercy to all who would come!

e. We must show this same trait in our lives! **Eph.4:32; Mt.6:12; Mt.10:8; 1 Cor.13:6,7**; Citizens in this kingdom must adopt this "forgiving spirit". We must adapt this merciful spirit. Forgiving spirit, **Acts 7:59,60. Lk.23:34**. Seek to save the lost! **Mt.9:36-38**. A merciful spirit towards the ultimate need of mankind--saved from their sins! Primary duty of all Christians. Help in whatever way we can--**Gal.6:10**.

## **#6. BLESSED ARE THE PURE IN HEART...for they shall see God".**

a. Heart is the source of the inner man. His mind must be clean, clear, unsoil, free of pollution & guilt, unfeign, genuine towards God! This controls his actions in this kingdom. Three things involved in purity of heart: ATTITUDE **Prov.23:7**, THOUGHTS- **Mt.12:34,35**, MOTIVE-**Mt.6:20-24**. Seat of our affections, understandings, wills, and emotions we have. Sincere not eyeservice. God looks directly into the heart! Single minded devotion and obedience towards Him in all we do!

b. **Psa.24:3,4**. Principle taught in the Old Law. Looking not only physical obedience but the pure heart. God will not accept a divided heart! **Mt.6:24**. Loyalty always towards God.

c. **Isa.35:8**. Way of holiness--cannot pass this Highway with an unclean heart! Might go through the motions, but God knows!

d. **Prov.4:23**; Controls the whole man!

e. **1 Pet.1:14-16,22**. Character which must be developed. Purity of heart towards God cause us to have same attitude towards brethren. True fellowship with God is a willful service we render to God--from the heart! Not enough to warm a pew, parents were Christians--true obedience to God flows from the single minded heart!

f. **Jno.3:3-5**. "Cannot see the kingdom of God". Cannot take part in that kingdom. Must be "born again". Share, participate, and fellowship. Holy Spirit pricks the human heart--brings us to the need of seeing what God is offering us! Not the physical sight, but seeing Him with a pure heart! We need to be obedient to God, but our motive must be from the heart! Is your service to God rendered out of a "pure heart"? **1 Tim.5:22**. How do I keep myself pure? By making sure my heart is always right before God! Who has control of your heart today? One of two people--God or Satan? Which is it for you? Do you seek to see God one day? Only those with a PURE HEART will ever see God!

**Continue...**

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