Exposition of Matthew

The Beatitudes: Merciful, Pure and Peacemakers

(Matt. 5:7-9)

I. Blessed are the merciful (7)

- A. Blessed are the merciful
 - 1. Merciful (adjective form) sympathetic, compassionate
 - 2. Mercy is seeing a need, feeling compassion and then acting in the interest of the one pitied.
 - 3. One of the manifestations of God's goodness is His mercy "The ready inclination of God to relieve the misery of fallen creatures" (Pink).
 - 4. God's mercy is demonstrated redemptively
 - 5. Christ's mercy Heb. 2:17
 - 6. There are two primary ways we should mercy:
 - Feel compassion and act to relieve someone's physical misery
 - b) Feel compassion and act to relieve someone's spiritual misery
- B. For they shall receive mercy

"We cannot receive the mercy and forgiveness of God unless we repent, and we cannot claim to have repented for our sins if we are unmerciful towards the sins of others" (Stott).

Why don't we show mercy to others?

II. Blessed are the pure in heart (8)

- A. Blessed are the pure in heart
 - 1. Pure can be a literal sense of clean
 Pure can also have the idea of without admixture Pure can also mean ceremonially clean
 Pure also has clear moral implications
 Psa 24:3-6
 - 2. In heart
 As opposed to external piety or ceremonial cleanness
- B. For they shall see God