

INTRODUCTION

1. Recall plan for pulpit - survey beatitudes as description of Jesus - Mat 5.
 - i. v3-9 = 7 beatitudes - each w/ an encouragement that appeals to us.
 - ii. v10-12 = 8th beatitude - sober realism of 2 seeds in enmity.
 - iii. v13-16 *you are...* v13,v14, not what you should become. The issue is the quality of our saltiness & brightness.

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1st: Jesus the Poor - v3

1. Provisions for the poor in OCov theocracy. Jesus was materially poor.
2. Also "poverty" - humble dependency on God. For us: includes repentance. Jesus - Ps 69:29; 86:1; 109:22. Jesus knew "poverty" in His human spirit.
3. Incarnation = impoverishment for Son of God - 2 Cor 8:9; Phil 2:5-8

2nd: Jesus the Mournful: v4

1. Isa 53:3 *a man of sorrows & acquainted w/ grief*
2. We grieve over our sin, but Jesus grieved over sin & suffering of others.
 - i. Mk 3:5 righteous indignation coupled w/ grief
 - ii. Jn 11:35 Weeping at the grave of Lazarus
 - iii. Lk 19:41 Saw coming destruction of city - intense lamentation
3. Jesus' grtest mourning was His death: bore in His body the curse of our sin.
 - i. Garden of Geth - Hb 5:7
 - ii. Cross - Mar 15:34

3rd: Jesus the Gentle - v5 [Meek]

1. Jesus' meekness - Mt 11:29 gentle = meek: no ostentation or flamboyance.
2. His meekness can be seen in the company He kept: Mat 11:19; Rm 12:16
3. His meekness seen in His avoidance of the limelight: Jn 6:15; Zec 9:9
4. His meekness is seen in service: Jn 13:14

4th: Jesus the Righteous - v6

1. Pursuit of righteousness - heart & conduct. Doing God's preceptive will.
2. Baptism: Mat 3:15 [Others confessing sins - Mrk 1:5]: Mat 3:17.

3. Jesus' ministry of righteousness - Mat 5:17 [Jer 23:6; 1Jn 2:1].

5th: Jesus the Merciful - v7

1. Compassion: pity: empathy - relieve pain & meet needs of others.
 - Oi. Mk 10:46-52 Bartimaeus the blind beggar - *have mercy on me!*
2. Recall Jesus & "sinful woman" in Simon's home - mercy, pardon, peace.
3. He is today, Jesus the Merciful - Heb 2:17 & 4:15,16

6th: Jesus the Pure - v8

1. I Jn 3:3 *pure*: 1] clean; 2] w/o mixture; 3] holy; 4] moral - 100%
2. Sinless & wholly pure: 1Jo 3:5; 1 Ptr 2:22; 2C 5:21; Hb 7:26
3. Jesus' motives, speech, actions & goals - sinless & pure.

7th: Jesus the Peacemaker - v9

1. *Prince of Peace* - Isa 9:6. To uphold righteousness & justice.
2. Jesus establishes peace & reconciliation w/ God - Rm 5:10-11 - Col 1:20
3. Jesus establishes peace tw/ men - Eph 2:13-17

8th: Jesus the Persecuted - v10

1. Jesus lived & labored under constant threat of His life.
2. Who of us will ever know the world's hatred vented on Jesus?

Applic #1: The Ministry of the Spirit and Conformity to Christ

1. Looking at virtues - liable to moralistic preaching. We must be united to Jesus w/ living faith enabled to live Xns life by power of HS - *to become conformed to the image of His Son* [Rm 8:29].
2. None of these character traits are naturally ours - must be born again & then cultivate Christlike character - Gal 5:22-25
3. If you're a Xn, the beatitudes describes what HS is doing in you. Do not look at beatitudes as abstract moral virtues - see Jesus & see yourself as you are in Christ.
4. You, in Jesus & like Jesus, are the salt of the earth; you are the light of the world - and you are blessed. AMEN.