
Matthew 5 begins the most powerful sermon ever preached: As our Lord Jesus Christ sat in the top of a mountain and taught the multitudes in that famous “sermon on the mount”. Read (V1-12)

The Beatitudes describe for us the personal characteristics, attitudes, behaviors of children of the Kingdom of Christ. A courtier was one who frequented the court of the King. If you were a courtier for an earthly King, you were expected to conduct yourself honorably in every facet of life, for you represented the King.

As children of the Kingdom of Christ, we represent the Lord Jesus Christ; therefore, our conduct, behavior, and our attitudes in every day life MATTER SIGNIFICANTLY!

The Beatitudes are a description of God’s character and of His wonderful graces given which are granted or given to children of God as a result of the new birth.

The Beatitudes reveal to us the character of the “new creature” in Christ, (graces or virtues), which now flow out of the “new heart” which believers have received from God.

The Beatitudes describe for us the realm of the Christian, which is the realm in which Christ is reigning! And where is that? Luke 17:20-21

These characteristics, these graces or virtues CANNOT be produced naturally, or from within your own spirit or personality; they are the result of the WORK of the Spirit of God operating within the believer’s heart.

Again, the Beatitudes are the result of the work of the Spirit of God in the heart of the born-again believer. Which if you are a believer, YOU possess the Spirit of God within you.

John 3:5-8, Romans 8:5-13

So as we study these characteristics of children of the Kingdom of Christ; consider that these should consistently be YOUR ATTITUDES and the spiritual characteristics of your life!

(V2): “And He opened His mouth, and taught them”

WOW! Jesus never opened His mouth unless He had something profitable to say!

Proverbs 8:6: “Hear; for I will speak of excellent things; and the opening of my lips shall be right things”

Matthew 5:3: “Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

Those who are children of the Kingdom of Christ; who frequent the court of the King of heaven are not arrogant or proud in their spirits and their attitudes, but “poor in spirit”; meaning, not poor monetarily, but humble and lowly in their personal attitudes and in their estimation of themselves.

Children of the Kingdom of Christ realize that they have nothing in and of themselves that makes them worthy of their calling and election by God but the grace and kindness of God!

Therefore, they do not look upon those OUTSIDE of the Kingdom of Christ as lesser individuals. Luke 18:9-14, Proverbs 16:19, 29:23

To be poor in spirit is to be emptied of self-reliance, devoid of self-confidence, and totally dependent upon God for your strength.

It is realizing that you have no resources and no ability apart from what God

has given you in Christ. But not only do you realize this, you believe it and you live it.

This is IN FACT, the spirit by which the Kingdom of God is received.

Matthew 18:1-3, Mark 10:13-16

And last: "FOR THEIRS IS the Kingdom of God! The Kingdom of Christ is their Kingdom!"

Matthew 5:4: "Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted."

"Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh." Luke 6:21:

"Woe unto you that laugh now! For ye shall mourn and weep." Luke 6:25:

What is this mourning? What is this sorrow?

First, it is NOT a worldly sorrow for worldly losses. It is NOT a sorrow because of discontentment or disappointment with our lot in life.

This is a sorrow for our own sins before God, and the fact that we have offended Him and dishonored Him.

Clarification: This is NOT sorrow and mourning because of the "CONSEQUENCES" of our sins, but for our sins before God.

We mourn for our sins because, in our sin, we have resisted the Spirit of God and grieved Him.

When we sin, we mourn because we hinder our fellowship and communion with God.

When we sin, we mourn because we show ingratitude and un-thankfulness toward God; and that, after all of His kindness that NEVER ceases toward us. Luke 6:35

Psalm 51:4, Jeremiah 13:15-17

But not only do we mourn for our sins, but also for the sins of others that we behold with our eyes, sins that we behold in the lives of those that we know and love. We mourn because of the sins of our society, and of our fellow man.

Psalm 119:158, 136, 139:21-24

The Lord Jesus Christ was a "man of sorrows and acquainted with grief."

Luke 19:41-44, Matthew 26:69-75

This grief; this mourning for sin in our own lives, in those that we love, in our community and workplace; this grief and mourning brings us into the presence of our God, where we are comforted.

We come to the throne of grace where we "find grace to help" in time of need.