

# The Beatitudes: A Composite Of The Blessed Character

Matt. 5:1-12

## Introduction:

- A. Jesus spoke “The Beatitudes” on a mountain in Galilee.
  - 1. “Beatitude” from latin “beatitudo”, happy or blessed.
  - 2. Galilee was northern section of “Holy Land”
    - a. Nazareth and Capernaum there.
    - b. Jesus begins earthly ministry there.
- B. Jesus spoke “The Beatitudes” at beginning of “The Sermon On The Mount”.
  - 1. They covered wide range of topics.
  - 2. Each a trait of character for every Christian to possess.

## Discussion:

- I. “Blessed are the *poor in spirit*” (verse 3).**
  - A. Realize dependance and unworthiness before God.
    - 1. Opposite of spiritual pride. (cf. Luke 18:9-14).
    - 2. Opposite of depending on “things” for security. (cf. Rev. 3:17,18).
  - B. Realize need to humbly submit to God and do so. (1 Tim. 6:3-5; cf. Matt. 18:3,4).
- II. “Blessed are those who *mourn*” (verse 4)**
  - A. Mourn over sins enough to repent. (2 Cor. 7:10; Jas. 4:8-10).
  - B. Mourn over sins of brethren enough to seek correction. (1 Cor. 5:2)
- III. “Blessed are the *meek*” (verse 5)**
  - A. Bear injustice easily, from strength rather than weakness.
  - B. Bear injustice without self-vindication—leaves vengeance to God.
  - C. Not a passive spineless door-mat. Cf. Jesus (Mt. 11:29) and Moses (Num. 12:3).
- IV. “Blessed are those who *hunger and thirst for righteousness*. (verse 6).**
  - A. Strongly desire to know righteousness. (Acts 17:11).
  - B. Strongly desire to see righteousness. (2 Pet. 2:7-8).
  - C. Strongly desire to do righteousness. (Acts 10:35).
- V. “Blessed are the *merciful*” (verse 7 cf. Jas. 2:13).**
  - A. Merciful toward physical suffering. (1 John 3:17).
  - B. Merciful toward lost souls. (Rom. 10:1-4; cf. 2 Tim. 4:1-4).
    - 1. Enough to convert them. (Jas. 5:19-20).
    - 2. Enough to insist on their repentance.
    - 3. Enough to forgive him after repentance.
- VI. “Blessed are the *pure in heart*” (verse 8).**
  - A. Purity of heart contrasted in outward purity of Jews. (Mt. 23:25,28).
  - B. Purity of heart come through faith and obedience from the heart. (Acts 15:9; 1 Thess. 5:23; 1 Pet. 1:22).
  - C. Purity of heart must be maintained. (cf. Acts 8:21).
- VII. “Blessed are the *peacemakers*” (verse 9).**
  - A. Seek to make peace between God and man. (2 Cor. 5:18,19).
  - B. Seek to make peace between man and man. (Matt. 18:15-18; 5:24).
  - C. Must not seek peace with man at expense of peace with God.
- VIII. “Blessed are those who are *persecuted for righteousness sake*” (verses 10-12).**
  - A. No virtue in being persecuted, but for righteousness sake. (cf. 1 Pet. 2:20).
  - B. Persecuted have reason to rejoice. (v. 12).

## Conclusion:

- A. Each Christian must make each character trait a part of very being. (Review traits).
- B. Each Christian will then have all the rewards mentioned for each trait.
  - 1. The kingdom of heaven. (vv. 3,10).
  - 2. Comforted. (v. 4).
  - 3. Inherit the earth. (v. 5; 1 Cor. 3:21,22).
  - 4. Shall be filled with righteousness.
  - 5. Shall obtain mercy
  - 6. Shall be called sons of God.