

CORINTH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

THE BEATITUDES OF JESUS CHRIST (Part 1)

INTRODUCTION:

- A. **The Beatitudes of Jesus Christ are listed at the introduction of His Sermon on the Mount as recorded in Matthew 5:3-12.** The aforementioned Biblical passage list nine Beatitudes of Christ.
- B. **Beatitudes refers to a state of great joy, being supremely blessed, fortunate and happy or the joy of Heaven.**
- C. **Beatitudes are Blessed sayings, statements of characteristics and Blessings or Declarations of Blessedness made by Christ along with the promises of future rewards.** Blessedness is a consequence of union with God as the genuine good.
- D. **“Blessed” means spiritual joy and satisfaction that lasts regardless of conditions – that carries us through pain, loss sorrow and grief.** Believers are Blessed even in hard times because they will receive eternity in Heaven.
- E. **“The Beatitudes found in the Gospel reading from Matthew, teach the faithful how to be followers of Christ.** They are “steppingstones” on the way to the Kingdom of God, but we can’t live them without the Grace of the Holy Spirit.” – Anonymous.

PROPOSITION:

This study gives an overview, condition and blessing of the nine (9) Beatitudes of Jesus Christ as outlined in the Gospel of Matthew. This study will examine the first four (4) Beatitudes. The remaining five (5) Beatitudes will be examined in the next Bible Study.

I. THE FIRST BEATITUDE

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

A. **The Condition**

To be **“Poor in Spirit”** is to recognize that one is spiritually bankrupted before God. The person understands that he has nothing of worth to offer to God for salvation. To be **“Poor in Spirit”** is to admit that because of sin, a person can do nothing to deliver himself from eternal punishment.

B. **The Blessing**

1. The Blessing for the **“Poor in Spirit”** is **“The Kingdom of Heaven”** which refers to salvation – a gift from God through the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus Christ, on the Cross, the full payment for our sin’s penalty.
 - **“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Rom 6:23).**
 - **“⁸For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: ⁹Not of works, lest any man should boast” (Eph 2:8-9).**

2. Jesus' discourse with the Rich Young Ruler (Matt 19:16-30; Mark 10:17-31; Luke 18:18-30) teaches that eternal life is not inherited and is not gained by doing good works. Eternal Life is the Gift of God through Jesus Christ.

II. THE SECOND BEATITUDE

“Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted” (Matt 5:4).

A. The Condition

“They that Mourn” refers to having a broken heart or sorrow for sin – our own sins and the sins of others in the world. It is the brokenness that Christians experience from seeing Jesus Christ on the Cross and realizing that our sins put Him there. This mourning also refers to the sorrow that Christians experience for those who reject Christ as the Savior and the impending judgment and punishment – eternal separation from God.

B. The Blessing

The Blessing for “They that Mourn” is comfort, (encourage; console, exhort).

1. **Christians shall be comforted by the assurance of forgiveness of sin and acceptance by God.**

- “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ” (Eph 1:3).
- “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).

2. **Christians are comforted with eternal comfort – passed from death unto life.**

- “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).
- “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life” (John 5:24).

3. **Christians will be comforted with the wiping away of all tears.**

- “For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes” (Rev 7:17).
 - “And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away” (Rev 21:4).
- ❖ **“The Son of God in tears. Angels with wonder see. Be thou astonished, O my soul! He shed those tears for thee.”** – K.C. Barker

III. THE THIRD BEATITUDE

“Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth” (Matt 5:5).

A. **The Condition**

Christians are to be “meek” which means to be gentle, to have a strong, but tender and humble life; to be accepting of one’s lowly position.

B. **The Blessing of Being “Meek”**

1. **The “Meek” Christian is humble (not prideful)**

He is humble before God and others. He realizes His need for God and for God’s hand on his life.

- “For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith” (Rom 12:3).
- “³Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. ⁴Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others” (Phil 2:3-4).

2. **The “Meek” Christian is Spirit controlled.**

He allows the Holy Spirit to be in control of his passion, urges, speech, actions, and behavior. His goal is to represent Christ at all times.

- “Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof” (Rom 6:12).
- “All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any” (1 Cor 6:12).

a. **The Best Man for the Job**

- President Lincoln had an early political rival named Edwin Stanton. He called Lincoln the original gorilla. When Lincoln was elected President, he chose Stanton to be his secretary of war because he believed he was the best man for the job. At Lincoln’s funeral Stanton said, “There lies the most perfect ruler of men the world has ever seen.” - President Lincoln had learned not to take insults personally.

- b. Former First Lady Michelle Obama said, “When someone is cruel or acts like a Bully, you don’t stoop to their level. No, our motto is: **When they go low, we do high.**”

- ❖ **Do not name call or lash out because others do it to you. Show the love of Christ with meekness.**

C. **The meek Christian is not ashamed of Christ.**

He is gentle and mild in attitude but is strong when it comes to the causes of Jesus Christ.

- “For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels” (Luke 9:26).
- “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek” (Rom 1:16).
- “Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God” (2 Tim 1:8).
- “Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf” (1 Pet 4:16).
- **I'm Not Ashamed to Own my Lord**
I'm not ashamed to own my Lord, or to defend his cause, maintain the honor of his Word, the glory of his cross.
Jesus, my God! I know his name, his name is all my trust;
nor will he put my soul to shame, nor let my hope be lost.

IV. **THE FOURTH BEATITUDE**

“Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled” (Matt 5:6).

A. The Condition

“They which do hunger and thirst after righteousness” refers to having a starving Spirit to be right and to do right or to **Be Good and to Do Good**.

- Righteousness means **Being Righteous and Doing Righteousness**. Christians must Be (Being and Do (Doing) to satisfy God's standard of righteousness.

B. The Blessing

1. The Blessing for those “which do hunger and thirst after righteousness” is that they shall be filled (satisfied).
2. **The Christian who hungers and thirsts (spiritual craving) after righteousness is filled with abundant life and eternal life.**
 - a. He is “filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit” (Acts 13:52).
 - b. He is “full of goodness filled with all knowledge” (Eph 3:19).
 - c. He is “filled with all the fullness of God” (Eph 3:19).
 - d. He is “filled with the Spirit” (Eph 5:18).
 - e. He is “filled with the fruits of righteousness” (Phil 1:11).

According to David C. Egner, “Jesus promised that those who hunger and thirst for righteousness “shall be filled” (Matt 5:6). The prayerful, humble person who seeks to know and please God will always find what he truly needs. There is no reason to let our hunger and spiritual nourishment go unsatisfied. All that we need is abundantly available in Jesus.

MEMORY VERSE

“²⁸ And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: ²⁹ For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes” (Matt 7:28-29).

CONCLUSION:

A. In conclusion, the first four Beatitudes of Jesus Christ are: Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven; Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted; Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth; and Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

B. “They’re called in the Scripture the Beatitudes. You know why they’re called the Beatitudes without being prestigious? Because they should be the attitudes of every believer. That’s the normal Christian life, not the abnormal Christian life. The normal Christian life is holiness” — Leonard Ravenhill

C. ABC’s of Salvation

- **A – Admit** that you’re a sinner and that you cannot save yourself (Rom 3:23, Eph 2:8-9).
- **B – Believe** that Jesus died on the Cross and rose again for your sins (Rom 5:8, 1 Cor. 15:3-4).
- **C – Confess**/Call on Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior (Rom 10:9-13)



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Pastor Carl Bennett
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“... the word of our God shall stand for ever” (Isa 40:8).