

Matthew 5:1-12

3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

5 "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Also read:

Community Group Study 30 May 2010



Introduction

This passage talks about the person who is of the kingdom of heaven. Not nine different types of people but a single person – nine attributes of a Christian.

The word "blessed" is used to describe someone who is completely satisfied and fulfilled.

The first four beatitudes underline the heart of repentance, by which one enters the kingdom of heaven. Our spiritual poverty, sinful state, surrender, humility and desire for God usher us into the saving arms of Jesus.

This disconnects us completely from trying to qualify ourselves before God by righteous behavior. The pride, slavishness and false religion of works-righteousness are against the teaching of Jesus.

The beatitudes continue: this repentance and salvation from God through Jesus must blossom into mercy, purity, peace and endurance and faithfulness in the persecution that every Christian must endure.

Discussion

- >>When is a man considered "blessed"?
- >>Why does God respond in this way to our brokenness and meekness?
- >>Is man truly completely wretched and depraved?

Explanation

- >>What does it mean to be poor in spirit?
- >>What is the "righteousness" Jesus talks about?
- >>How does works-righteousness deny God?

Application

- >>How can we meekly surrender the solution to our sinfulness to Jesus Christ?
- >>How do we hunger and thirst after God our righteousness (Jer 23:6)?
- >>How can our repentance work out into real action?