

The Best Life

DAMIAN THOMPSON • ONLINE & OUTREACH PASTOR
FEBRUARY 22

THE BEST LIFE GOES HORIZONTAL MATTHEW 5:7-9

I. BLESSED ARE THE MERCIFUL, FOR THEY SHALL RECEIVE MERCY (v. 7)

- Mercy is not getting the **JUDGMENT** one deserves. (James 2:13)
- Mercy is **CENTRAL** to who God is. (Lamentations 3:22-33; Ephesians 2:4-6; Psalm 103:8)
- Mercy is a blend of lovingkindness, compassion, and active intervention on behalf of those in distress. (Hebrews 4:16)
- The merciful are the ones who **GIVE MERCY** away. (Matthew 23:23-24; Luke 6:36; 10:25-37)

II. BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS, FOR THEY SHALL BE CALLED THE SONS OF GOD (v. 9)

- Peacemakers walk into conflict and **CHAOS**.
- The sons of God live lives that are **REFLECTIVE** of Jesus (Romans 8:14; Galatians 3:26)

III. BLESSED ARE THE PURE IN HEART, FOR THEY SHALL SEE GOD (v. 8)

- Pure refers to being **CLEAN**. (Psalm 24:3-4; 2 Corinthians 7:1)
- Heart is the **CORE** of the person. (1 Samuel 16:7; Proverbs 4:23; 27:19)
- The pure in heart's reward? To see God. (John 14:7; 1 John 3:1-3)
- But what compromises a pure heart? (Matthew 23:25-26; Psalm 24:3-4; James 4:8)
- Can we be pure in heart by our own strength? (1 John 5-10)

IV. WHAT'S YOUR NEXT STEP?

How does this work?

- Draw near to God. (Hebrews 4:16; 10:22)
- Confess our sins. (1 John 1:9; Revelation 7:13-14)
- Ask. (Psalm 51:2, 7, 10)



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