

Christ's Sermon ~ A Compendium on Life

Primitive Instincts

Emotions/Anger/Murder
5:21-26

Sexuality/Lust
5:22-32

Integrity/Self Deception
5:33-37

Vengeance/Love
5:38-48

Righteous Requirements

Generosity

6:1-4

Prayer/Communing

6:5-14

Fasting/Space for God

6:16-18

Singularity

6:22-24

Materialism

6:19-21

Critical Spirit

7:1-6

Hunger for God

7:7-12

Anxiety/Faith

6:25-34

3

Matthew 5:3-10 (New King James Version)

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 filled.

⁷ Blessed *are* the merciful,

For they shall obtain 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.

“Blessed” is repeated 8 times.

What does that imply?

Read each one as an exclamation. “Blessed! The poor in Spirit. . .” Etc. (Notice the verb “to be” is in italics)

What are synonyms for “blessed”?

3 Blessed (happy, to be envied, and spiritually prosperous--with life-joy and satisfaction in God's favor and salvation, regardless of their outward conditions) Amplified Bible

Read Numbers 6 : 23 - 25

(Jesus was steeped in the Old Testament, as were His hearers)

Say to Aaron and his sons, This is the way you shall bless the Israelites. Say to them,

The Lord bless you and watch, guard, and keep you; The Lord make His face to shine upon and enlighten you and be gracious (kind, merciful, and giving favor) to you; The Lord lift up His [approving] countenance upon you and give you peace (tranquility of heart and life continually). (Amplified Bible)

Who is the subject of each sentence?

What does that imply?

The Book of Jewish Knowledge describes the actions of the priest as he dispenses the blessing: *“The priest raises his hands above his head, palm facing downward. Then, putting his thumbs tip to tip, he joins the first finger with the second, and the third to the fourth. In this arrangement the fingers are so separated that they form openings through which ... the blessed Radiance of the Shechinah streams down upon the praying throng.”*

The Glory in all His majesty shines through the fingers and the words impart meaning to the Shining. It is the radiant glory of God (shechinah) that is dispensed. From that fountain head every drop of blessing flows, providing security, guidance, safety, kindness, mercy, favor, approval and peace.

Where Will God’s Blessing Be Found?

Who is the subject of each sentence?

What does that imply?

Consider each exclamation as a pillar in a stadium, and the place of God’s Blessing is defined for us:

8 Pillars in God's Stadium of Blessing

Poor in Spirit
Theirs the Kingdom

1

Persecuted
Great Reward

8

Mourn
Comforted

2

Peacemakers
God's Children

7

Meek
Inherit Promise

3

Pure in Heart
See God

6

Hungry & Thirsty
For Righteousness
Satisfied

4

Merciful
Find Mercy

5

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Salt and Light 5:13-16

Law, Grace and Righteousness ~ Be Perfect 5:17-20

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Sexuality/Lust
5:22-32



**Inner
Sanctuary
The
Beatitudes
5:3-12**



Integrity/Self Deception
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Vengeance/Love
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Righteous Requirements

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Calculating the Cost

Liabilities – It is a narrow road 7:13-14

Beware of false prophets! 7:15-16

Assets – It is luscious tree of life 7:17-20

Building – wise or foolish 7:24-27

REFLECTIONS

MONDAY: Genesis 1:20-23

To bless means to bestow a gift by a potent utterance. How does the blessing in 1:28 affect you? What are the practical implications for your life?

TUESDAY: Leviticus 9:1-24

Here is the commencement of the Blessing - the sacrifices for sin. Reflect on Christ as the ultimate and effective remedy for your sin. Notice how the people are blessed in v23. Can you relate this to yourself? Compare John 1:29.

WEDNESDAY: Psalm 145:1-21

The word translated "Praise" in v 1, v 2, and v 21, is the Hebrew word for "bless". It is our response to God's bestowment of blessing on us. We bless Him by means of praise. Trace each blessing that is yours in this Psalm and praise Him for each one.

THURSDAY: Acts 3:11-26

God bestows His blessing on us in Christ. Identify that for yourself in Peter's sermon. How does this blessing manifest itself today? (v 26)

FRIDAY: Ephesians 1:3-14

V 3 expounds the scope of God's blessing to us in Christ. Is anything withheld from the believer? V 4 begins with the word "for". This means that vv4-14 describe that blessing. Go through the list and praise the Lord for each Blessing He has bestowed on you!

SATURDAY: Galatians 3:1-14

Faith is a blessing (gift) from God - see v9. This means it is the product of God's word and issues in benefit to the person addressed. The blessing in this instance is found in v 2. Praise (bless) God for this truth and work out the implications of it for yourself.