

The Sermon On The Mount

The State, Character, Behavior &
Treatment of The One

Whose Life Is
Ruled By
God

Matthew 5:3-12



The Sermon On The Mount



“Though I have tried at times to dismiss [the sermon on the Mount] as rhetorical excess, the more I study Jesus, the more I realize that the statements contained here lie at the heart of His message. If I fail to understand His teaching, I fail to understand Him.” —

(Phillip Yancey,
‘The Jesus I Never Knew,’ pg 105)



The Sermon On The Mount



- ◆ The CHARACTER and BLESSEDNESS of the citizens of the kingdom - (Mt 5:3-16)
- ◆ The RIGHTEOUSNESS expected of its citizens - (Mt 5:17-7:12)
- ◆ Our need to respond to the DEMANDS of the King in every respect - (Mt 7:13-27)

The Sermon On The Mount



- ◆ The Beatitudes are a collection of eight characteristics (*qualities of life*) that separate children of God from the rest of the world (Matt 5:3–12)
- ◆ These eight beatitudes describe the blessed state of those who humbly submit themselves to the will of God.
- ◆ These are not eight different groups of people (poor, mourners, meek, etc.), but every Christian is meant to manifest every one of these characteristics.

The Sermon On The Mount

The Character & Blessedness of The Child of God

Matthew 5:1-12 (NKJV)

¹ And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. ²

Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying: 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.



The Sermon On The Mount

The Character & Blessedness of The Child of God

Matthew 5:1-12 (NKJV)

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. ¹¹

"Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. ¹² Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.



The Sermon On The Mount

The State of the One Ruled By God . . .

The Term “Blessed”


- ◆ Used Nine Times In Nine Verses . . . Literally "How Very Happy."
- ◆ μακάριος, makarios was originally & commonly associated with the happiness produced by material wealth & prosperity -
- ◆ But the Lord and NT writers assigned to it a far greater meaning - happiness & joy associated with spiritual wealth which comes ONLY through a right relationship with God.



The Sermon On The Mount

The State of the One Ruled By God . . .

The Term “Blessed”



“Blessed” means more than happiness. It implies the fortunate or enviable state of those who are in God’s Kingdom. The Beatitudes don’t promise laughter, pleasure, or earthly prosperity. Being ‘blessed’ by God means the experience of hope and joy, independent of outward circumstances. To find hope and joy, the deepest form of happiness, follow Jesus no matter what the cost.”

(Life Application Study Bible, comments on Matt 5:3)

The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

Blessed are the poor in spirit,

Psalm 34:18

The LORD is near to
those who have a broken
heart, And saves such as
have a contrite spirit.



The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

Blessed are the poor in spirit,

Isaiah 57:15

For thus says the High and Lofty One
Who inhabits eternity, whose name is
Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy
place, With him who has a contrite and
humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the
humble, And to revive the heart of the
contrite ones.



The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

Blessed are the poor in spirit,

Isaiah 66:2 (NKJV)

For all those things My hand has made, And all those things exist," Says the LORD. "But on this one will I look: On him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, And who trembles at My word.



The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

Blessed are the poor in spirit,



- ◆ Complete absence of pride and self reliance (Jer 10:23; 1 Cor 3:18).
- ◆ The opposite of "poor in spirit" would be "proud of heart," - Luke 18:9-14
- ◆ It is consciousness of the fact that we are nothing before God (Ps 8:3-4).
- ◆ Convicted of one's spiritual destitution without God – Ps 51:16,17

The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

Blessed are the poor in spirit,

"For theirs is the kingdom of heaven"

- ◆ Individuals who, by choice, render themselves subservient to the will of God, partake of the blessings & benefits of being a citizen in the kingdom of heaven.



The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

Blessed are the poor in spirit,

"For theirs is the kingdom of heaven"

Matthew 8:11 (NKJV)

And I say to you that many
will come from east and west,
and sit down with Abraham,
Isaac, and Jacob in the
kingdom of heaven.



The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

Blessed are the poor in spirit,
"For theirs is the kingdom of heaven"

James 2:5 (NKJV)

Listen, my beloved brethren: Has God not chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?



The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

Blessed are those who mourn,

- ◆ In a specific sense: over one's sinfulness - (Psalm 51:3,4; Luke 15:11-24)
- ◆ The "godly sorrow" of which produces repentance and leads to salvation, - (2 Cor. 7:10)



The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

Blessed are those who mourn,

“The worldly take a light hearted attitude to the serious issues of life, a fact that is very evident in our modern pleasure-loving generation. In their seeking after self gratification and pleasure they do not grieve over sin or evil. Because they do not grieve over what is wrong, they do not repent” (Morris, 97)

The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

Blessed are those who mourn,

"For they Shall be comforted"

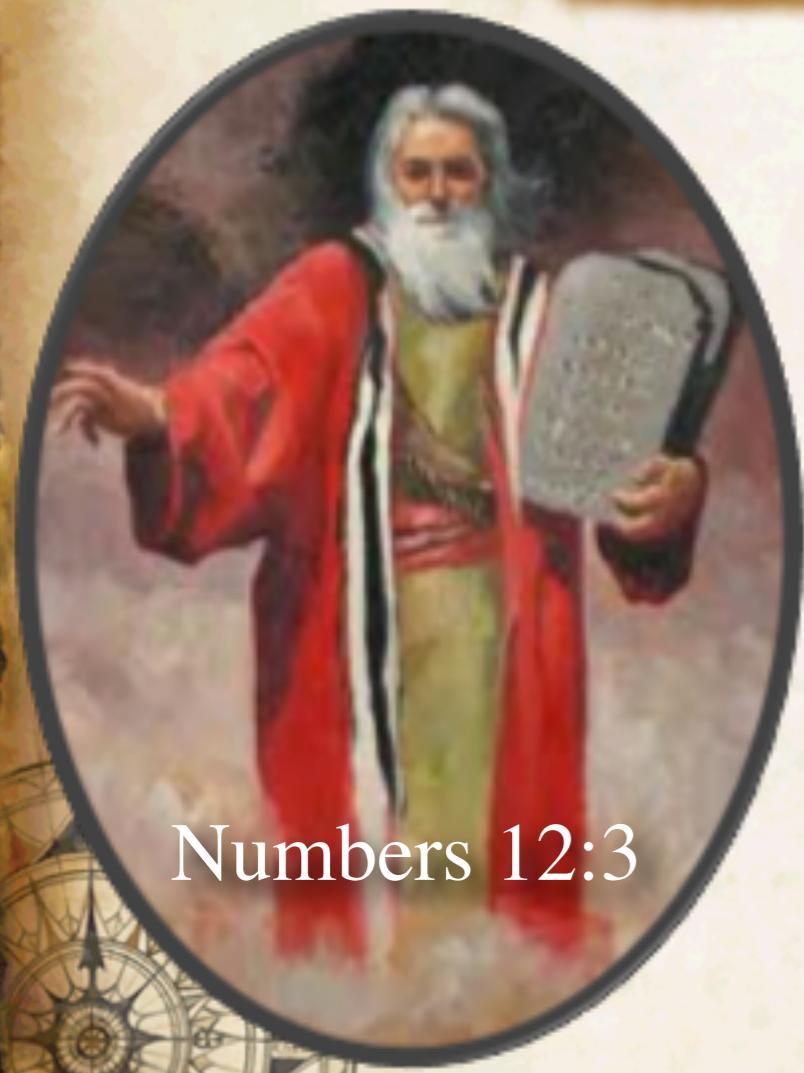
- ◆ Will have the burden of sin lifted
– Matthew 11:28-30
- ◆ Comforted by God in this life
even in the midst of trials through
our faith & hope - 2 Corinthians
1:3-7; Romans 8:23-39
- ◆ Eternal life - Revelation 21:4



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The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

“Blessed are the meek”



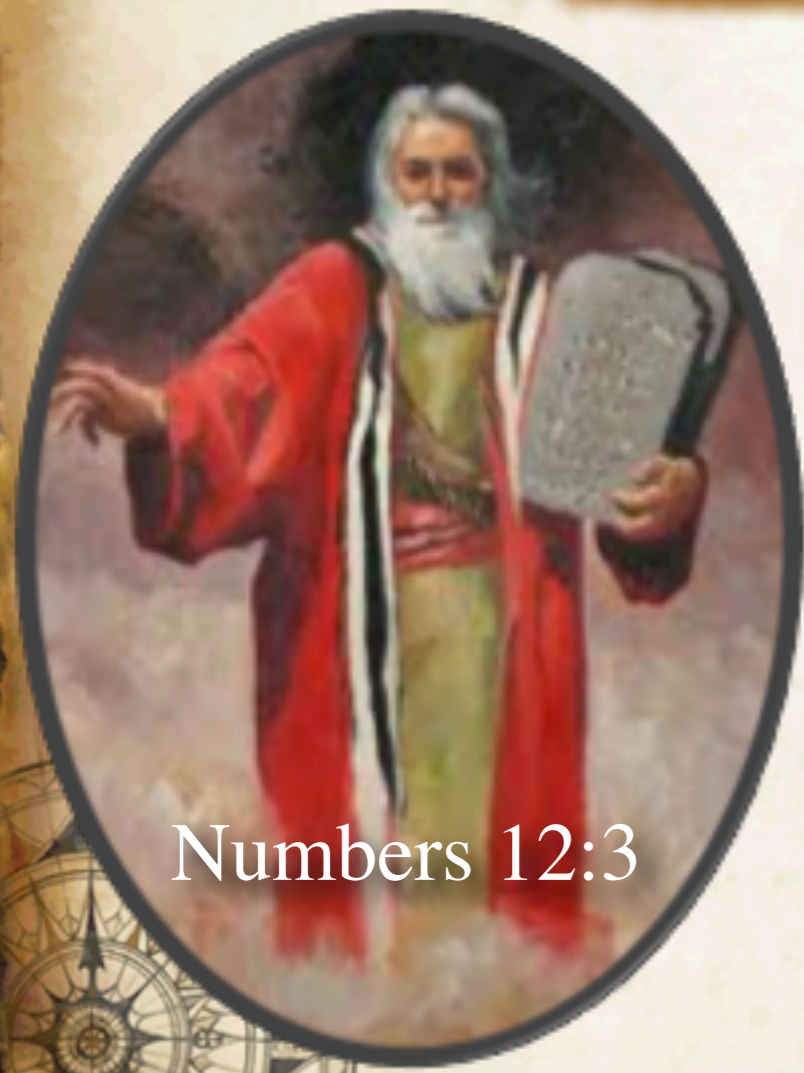
Numbers 12:3

- ◆ Not weakness, cowardice, or timidity
- ◆ Toward God: “It is that temper of spirit in which we accept His dealings with us as good, and therefore without disputing or resisting; . . . it is only the humble heart which is also the meek, and which, as such, does not fight against God and more or less struggle and contend with Him.” (Vine’s Expository Dictionary of NT Word’s)

The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

“Blessed are the meek”



Numbers 12:3

- ◆ Power under control - Inward power and strength of mind to remain under control and respond properly to instruction, rebuke and adversity.
- ◆ “The meek are those who have enough strength of character to be soft in spirit, to retain their poise in the face of provocation.”

The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

“Blessed are the meek”

- ◆ *Prautes*, according to Aristotle, is the middle standing between two extremes, getting angry without reason, and not getting angry at all. Therefore, *prautes* is getting angry at the right time, in the right measure, and for the right reason. . . . [I]t is a condition of mind and heart which demonstrates gentleness, not in weakness, but in power. It is a balance born in strength of character. (p. 1209-1210)



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The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

“Blessed are the meek”

“For they Shall inherit the earth”



- ◆ Quite different from the world's view!
- ◆ Those who seek God FIRST will have material necessities - (*Matthew 6:33*)
- ✳ Instead of the world possessing us – we possess the world as good stewards - (*Mark 10:29,30; Matthew 25:14-30; 1 Cor 3:21-23*)

The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

“Blessed are the meek”

“For they Shall inherit the earth”



- ◆ A Hebraism for God's blessings (*Gen 15:7,8; Ps 37:20*),
- ◆ Not that the meek will be materially wealthy, but that they shall be received into his kingdom, partake of its blessings here, and of the glories of the heavenly Canaan hereafter. - (*John 18:36; Eph 1:3; Jam. 2:5; 1 Pet. 1:4*)

The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness”



- ◆ A hunger & thirst due to one's realization of their spiritual poverty - Psalm 51:17
- ◆ Depicts one with an intense craving for being right with God - a strong desire to know God's will and do that which is right in His sight - Psalm 1:2; 42:1,2; 63:1,2; 119:97-104; 1 Pet 2:2

The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness”

Manifested in our desire to:

- ◆ Study God's word - Acts 17:11
- ◆ Assemble for Bible study & worship - Ps 122:1; Heb 10:24,25
- ◆ Serve God by doing everything He wants, and doing everything His way - Col 1:9,10; 3:17

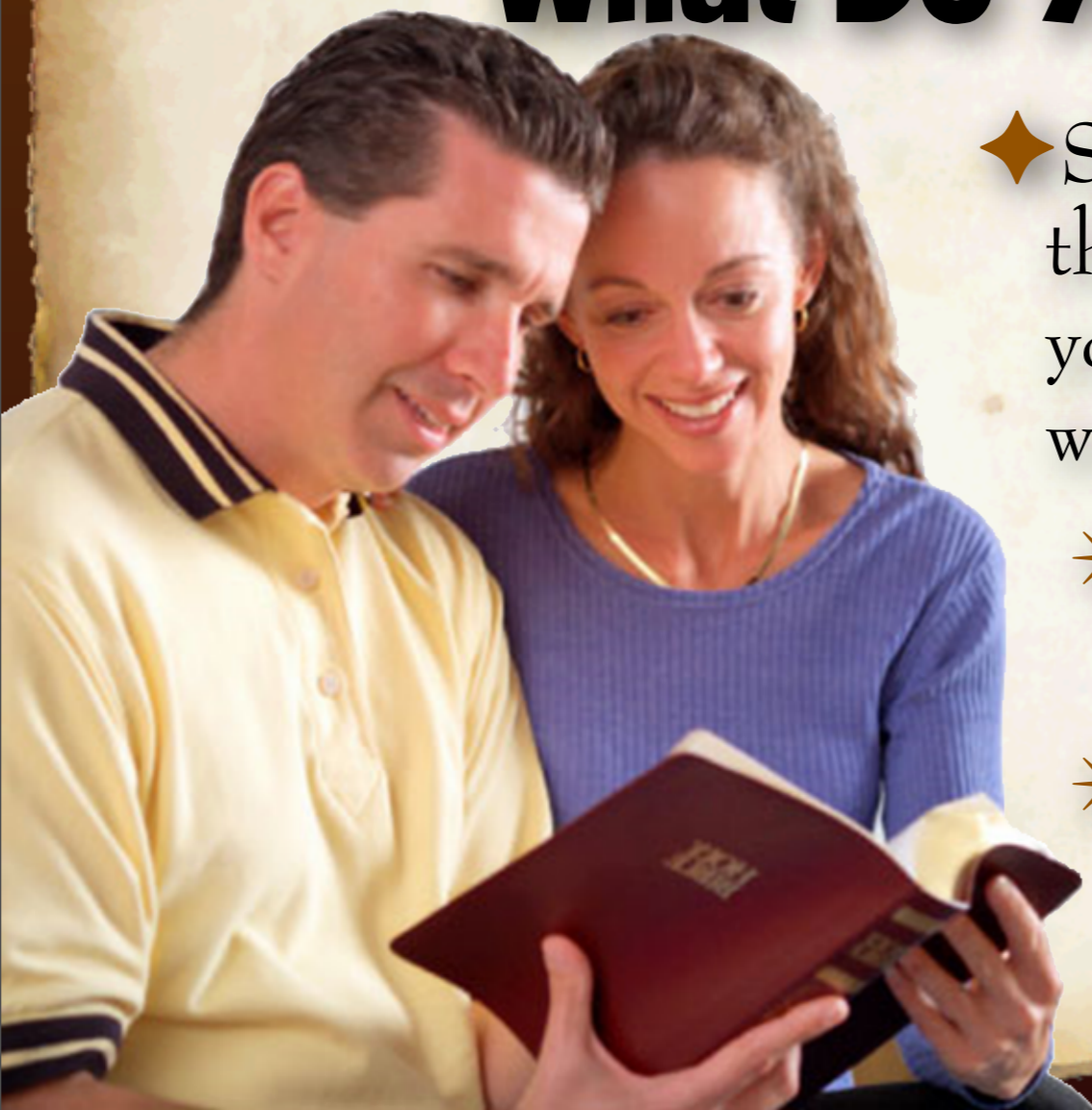


The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness”

What Do You Hunger & Thirst For?:



- ◆ Show me a man who is “hungering and thirsting after righteousness” and I will show you a man who doesn’t need to be begged to worship God (Ps 122:1).
- ✳ *You will not need to nag this person to study, teach or give as they have been prospered.*
- ✳ *There is a real difference between casually seeking heaven and making it your life’s work.*

The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness”

“For they Shall be filled”

- ◆ We have been invited to “come” and eat freely and be filled - Isaiah 55:1-13, 65:13, John 4:14, 6:35, 7:37,38, Psalms 17:15
- ◆ Our ardent desire will be filled through and in Christ by faith - Rom. 5:1; Rom 6:3-6; Gal. 3:26,27; Eph. 1:3-13; 2 Pet 1:3-11



The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

“Blessed are the merciful”



- ◆ Mercy is “the moral quality of feeling compassion and especially of showing kindness toward someone in need. This can refer to a human kindness and to God’s kindness to humankind” (Goodrick, Kohlenberger and Swanson, *Greek to English Dictionary*).
- ◆ No action, no mercy - (*the “Good Samaritan” Luke 10:27-37*); cf. Col 3:12; James 3:17
- ◆ Possessing a forgiving spirit toward those who sin against them (HENDRICKSEN) - Mat. 18:21-25; Luke 6:35; 23:24; Acts 7:60

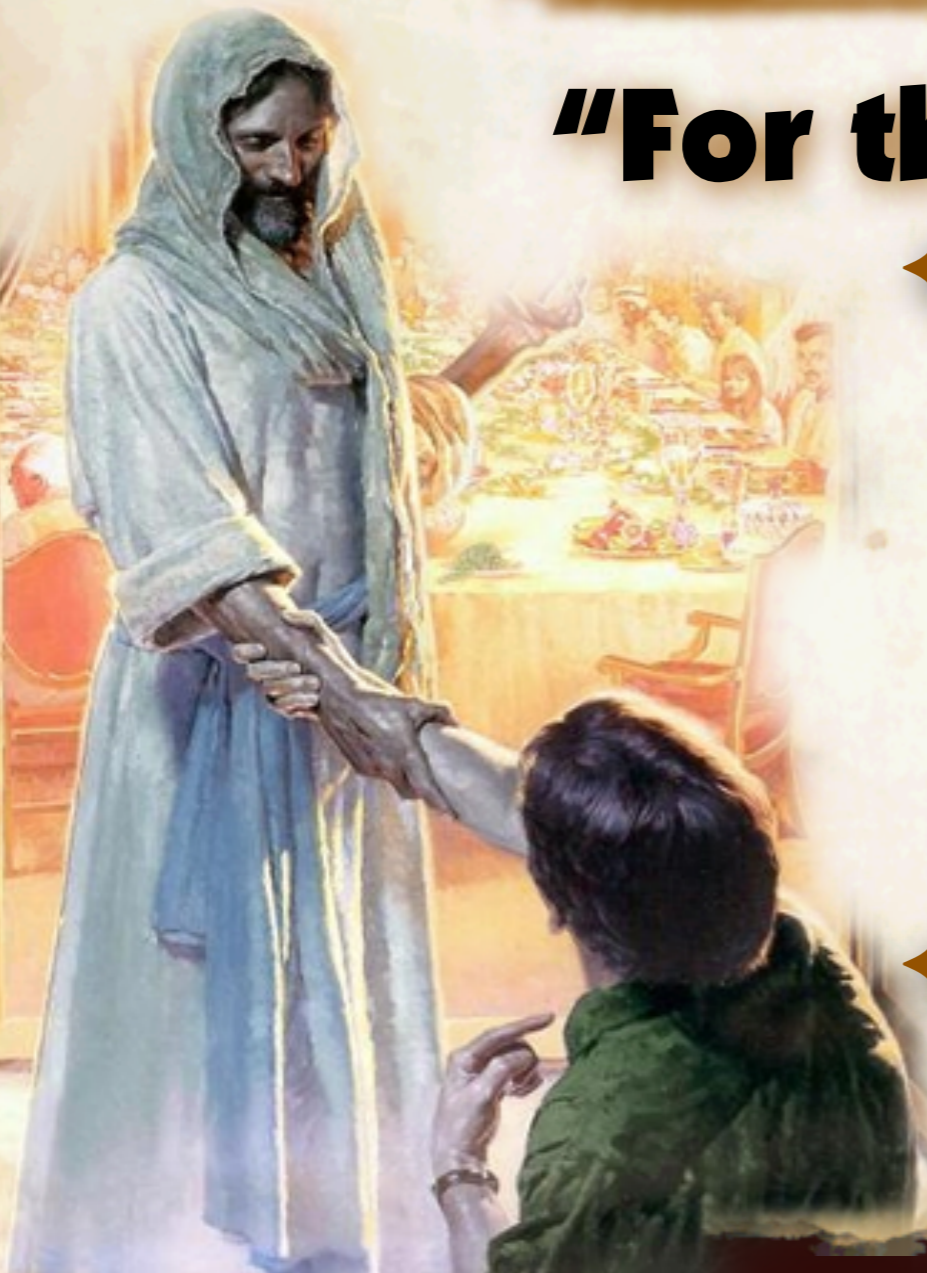
The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

“Blessed are the merciful”

“For they Shall obtain Mercy”

- ◆ Those who realize their spiritual position before a Holy God, who mourn due to their sin, those who accept God’s judgments, and hunger and seek for righteousness will recognize their need for mercy from God - Rom. 5:1; Rom 6:3-6; Gal. 3:26,27; Eph. 1:3-13; 2 Pet 1:3-11
- ◆ If we are not merciful to others - we will not obtain mercy from God - Matthew 6:14,15; 7:2; 18:21-35; James 2:13



The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

“Blessed are the pure in heart”



- ◆ Purity refers to more than just the removal of sin and impurities of the heart - it includes the idea of singleness of devotion - (James 4:8; Mat 6:24)
- ◆ The heart represents much more than emotion, feelings. It also includes the thinking process and particularly the will... The heart is the control center of the mind and will as well as emotion.

The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

“Blessed are the pure in heart”

In Contrast To Purity of Heart

The Pharisees were clean on the outside, but inwardly were full of hypocrisy and lawlessness -

(Matt 23:23-28)



The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

“Blessed are the pure in heart”



- ◆ Pure in heart is not a ritual cleanliness, (23:25-28), but cleanliness at the center of our being.
- ◆ Heart here stands for the inner man, and since it is from here that evil proceeds, it is here that cleanliness must start. (Luke 6:45)

The Sermon On The Mount

The Character of the One Ruled By God . . .

“Blessed are the pure in heart”

“For they shall see God”



- ◆ We see God now through the eye of faith—like Moses who “endured as seeing Him who is invisible” (Heb 11:27; cf. 3 John 11).
- ◆ We see God now in the sense of being reconciled to Him in Christ, i.e., those who keep His commandments are in a relationship with Him - (1 John 3:6)
- ◆ In the final sense, we will see God in heaven (Ps 17:15; Rev 22:3–4; 1 John 3:2).

The Sermon On The Mount

The Actions of the One Ruled By God . . .

“Blessed are the peacemakers”



“The peacemaker here is not the compromiser of disagreements and the settlers of disputes. It is a passage on reconciliation to God and involves the doctrine of peace with God, and the peacemaker is the peace preacher, the disciple who would show the people of the world how to find peace with God.

(Wallace, *The Sermon on the Mount and the Civil State*, 21)

The Sermon On The Mount

The Actions of the One Ruled By God . . .

“Blessed are the peacemakers”



- ◆ Those who make peace with God – Ep. 2:13ff.
- ◆ Those who encourage others to make peace with God – Ep. 2:17; 6:15
- ◆ Those who strive to be at peace with all men – Ro 12:18-21

The Sermon On The Mount

The Actions of the One Ruled By God . . .

“Blessed are the peacemakers”



- ◆ Not through compromise – but through conformity to the gospel of peace – (Luke 12:51–53; Acts 5:29)
- ◆ Churches and Christians can be divided because of ungodly attitudes, ungodly behavior, and ungodly doctrine – those guilty of these ungodly deeds demonstrate they are not children of God! (John 17:20,21; 1 Cor. 1:10-13)

The Sermon On The Mount

The Actions of the One Ruled By God . . .

“Blessed are the peacemakers”



**“For they shall be called
the sons of God”**

- ◆ We are the “sons of God” because we reflect the character of our Father. -
- ◆ The phrase “sons of God” includes both men and women, because with sonship comes the rights of inheritance (cf. Gal 3:26).

The Sermon On The Mount

The Treatment of the One Ruled By God . . .

“Blessed are the persecuted”



- ◆ This persecution is because of righteous living, not because of our sins or some character defect (1 Pet 3:14; 4:14–15).
- ◆ As we endure persecution we are related in spirit to the prophets who were persecuted before us (2 Chr 36:15–16; Matt 23:29–36; Acts 7:51–53; Jas 5:10).
- ◆ Those who have the favor of the all the worldly are not living right - (2 Tim 3:12)

The Sermon On The Mount

The Treatment of the One Ruled By God . . .

“Blessed are the persecuted”

“For theirs is the kingdom of heaven”

¹²Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

◆ We have cause for rejoicing - we have a reward awaiting us in heaven if we endure - James 1:12; Rom 8:17



The Sermon On The Mount

The Blessedness of the One Ruled By God . . .

True Joy and Happiness Can Only Be Experienced By



- ◆ The Humble,
- ◆ Contrite,
- ◆ Obedient,
- ◆ Spiritually minded,
- ◆ Forgiving,
- ◆ Sincere, holy,
- ◆ Those who are Promoters of Peace
- ◆ Those who endure.

The Sermon On The Mount

The Blessedness of the One Ruled By God . . .



- ◆ True Success is ONLY Achieved By The Godly!
- ◆ Your Character and Behavior Determines Both Your Happiness & Reward -
- ◆ Are you living the truly blessed life?



The Sermon On The Mount

The State of the One Ruled By God . . .

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Psalms 1:1-6 (NKJV)

1 Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; 2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. 3 He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.



Psalms 1:1-6 (NKJV)

⁴ The ungodly are not so, But are like
the chaff which the wind drives away.

⁵ Therefore the ungodly shall not stand
in the judgment, Nor sinners in the
congregation of the righteous.

⁶ For the LORD knows the way of the
righteous, But the way of the ungodly
shall perish.

