
“THE BLESSEDNESS OF BEING BROKEN” (1)

MATTHEW 5:1-3

SERIES: “TRUE SPIRITUALITY:

HOW TO LIVE FOR JESUS MOMENT BY MOMENT” (1)

WATERKLOOF BAPTIST CHURCH SERMON NOTES

04/10/2020

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Introduction

What is true spirituality? In our day and age we have much to choose from: the teachings of the latest guru’s, to famous personalities and preachers, all offering different brands of spirituality. In Jesus’ day it was no different!

Lockdown has forced us to take a serious look at ourselves. Some are at a critical point in their journey with Christ, while others are longing to walk in the fulness of Christ.

In the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew chapters 5 – 7), Matthew distills for us Jesus’ most important teachings.

- Augustine described the Sermon on the Mount as “a perfect standard for the Xian life.”
- It influenced Ghandi’s political approach.
- John Stott reckoned that this sermon is the best known part of Jesus’ teaching, but arguably the least understood, and certainly, the least obeyed.
- Martin Lloyd Jones said that if you consider any part of the sermon impossible to do, then you have misunderstood it or interpreted it incorrectly.
- It is an X-ray on your life!

Matthew 5:1-3

“Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them. He said: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

Jesus begins the Sermon on the Mount with the “Beatitudes” – “blessed”

Billy Graham described the Beatitudes as 8 Beautiful Attitudes.

The Beatitudes have been called:

- “The Character of the Kingdom”
- “The Manifesto of the Kingdom”
- “The Norms of the Kingdom”

Progression in the 8 Beatitudes.

V3 & 10: “theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven”
= Kingdom of God (Mark, Luke, John)

Matthew’s use of the “Kingdom of Heaven”

- It is where the rule and reign of God is.
- It is the rule of the ungrieved Spirit in the life of the believer.

To inherit the Kingdom of heaven means to enjoy the blessing and conscious indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit.

The Kingdom of Heaven presupposes three things:

- The sovereignty of God – in Jesus being revealed to you
- The salvation of God – in you being saved
- The Spirit of God – you being born again and transformed

Real change: Mickey Cohen

‘Blessed by God’

- Not simply ‘happy’
- God’s approval
- God’s anointing ... coming under the anointing of the Spirit

Poor in Spirit

It doesn’t mean:

- A big zero
- You are shy
- A showy humility

Two Greek words:

- Lacking wealth and need work
- ✓ To be in abject poverty

Luke 18:13

Psalm 51

*“Have mercy on me oh God, according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions ...
for I know my transgressions are, and my sin is always before me ...
the sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and contrite heart, O God,
you will not despise.”*

Max Lucado: The Applause of heaven

The Rich Young Ruler

*“Nothing in my hand I bring; Simply to the cross I cling;
Naked, come to Thee for dress; Helpless, look to thee for grace;
Foul I to the fountain fly; Wash me Saviour, or I die.”*

-- Augustus Toplady

Blessed are the poor in Spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Theirs is God’s approval; theirs is the Holy Spirit;
theirs is salvation; theirs is the anointing; theirs is spiritual growth!