

## The Great Physician

### Luke 6:20-26

- We left off with Jesus getting alone with the Father and praying all night before choosing out of thousands of followers those who would be His twelve Apostles. These are the men **Acts 17:6** says “**turned the world upside down**” or “**right-side up**”, depending on your perspective. Afterward with tens of thousands following and listening, including those who are looking to catch Him saying or doing something that they could arrest Him for, Jesus is healing people of every disease, casting out demons, giving sight to the blind, providing hope to the hopeless.

### V20-26

- **V19** said gathered around Jesus touching Him that “**Virtue**” went out from Him and healed them all, the word “**Virtue**” here comes from the Greek word “**Dunamis**” where we get the English word “**Dynamite**”. If someone threw a stick of dynamite in the midst of us right now we would not run to it and try and touch it but we would run away from it knowing how powerful its explosion can be. The power that was coming out of Jesus was beyond anything the people had ever seen nor anything that we could imagine, as every and any physical disease was cured.
- **V20-22** this section can easily be confused with “**the sermon on the mount**” recorded in Mathew 5, and although it has similarities it has differences, like Mathew’s account occurs on a mountain but Luke’s event happens in the plains, also Luke’s account is much shorter, causing some to think it’s probably the same sermon just given at a different time and different place.
- Jesus then lifted up His eyes toward His Disciples, after choosing them He now is instructing them, as He’s preparing them to impact the world for His glory. Don’t ever think that if God called you that He has forgotten you, just as He prayed before choosing these Disciples, and placed His eyes directly on them as He taught and prepared them, He will do the same with us.
- “**Blessed are you poor for yours is the Kingdom of God**” “**Blessed are you who hunger now for you shall be filled**”, “**Blessed are you who weep now for you shall laugh**”, “**Blessed are you when men hate you and when they exclude you, and revile you, and cast out your name as evil**”. The word “**Blessed**” means happy, but the situations or experiences Jesus is describing typically don’t make anyone happy but on the contrary it makes them sad. Who is happy that is poor, who are hungry, who are sad and crying, who are hated, despised, and rejected.
- Remember that Jesus is speaking to His Disciples, so when He says “**Blessed are the poor**” He’s talking about the “**poor in spirit**”. Its similar to being materially poor, as just like someone who lack the means to take care of themselves, likewise someone who is poor in spirit recognizes that they in and of themselves have no spiritual assets, that they are spiritually bankrupt. This is where Jesus wanted His Disciples to start from, with an attitude that begins with “**not what I have**” but “**what I have not**” that’s the first point of contact between my soul and God.

- Hungry here is speaking of in spirit, and like a hungry person seeks and looks for food in hopes of satisfying their appetite, for their hunger is driving and giving them a single focus. So the person who hungers after Him, they will be willing to do whatever is necessary to satisfy that hunger, that's when going to church reading your Bible, serving in ministry, is no longer a chore or a burden but a blessing, for in doing so you will have satisfied your spiritual appetite.
- We weep now as we see the low and needy condition of both individuals and society, as we see children lose their innocence from a T.V. show, movie or song, Laws being passed that directly challenge what God has said about marriage, parenting, and sexuality, falsehoods being taught as truth, and everyone doing what is good in their own sight, calling good evil and evil good. So there's a sorrow with walking with God in this world as its very sad seeing the bad choices people make > **2 Pet 2:7-8**- Lot was grieved seeing and hearing their evil deeds day by day.
- But our hope comes from knowing that it will not always be that way brings laughter, for God is going to make things right, and we get a glimpse of that when we see people get right with the Lord > **Ps 30:5**- weeping may endure for a night but joy comes in the morning, right now we are living in the night surrounded by darkness, but soon Christ will return, the Bright and Morning Star, and there will be no more darkness, only His glory > **Rev 21:23**- we won't need the sun or moon, because Jesus glorious light will shine so bright that nothing else is required.
- In each of these three Paradoxical statements describing a person's spiritual condition in terms of poverty, hunger and weeping, Jesus used the hopeful word "**now**". Disciples you are poor now, but one day you will receive the Kingdom, you are hungry now, but one day you'll be filled, you are weeping now, but one day you will be laughing from joy. That's where the believers hope comes from not in what we see now but in what God has said will happen later amen!
- **V23** Jesus gives blessings to the hated, think about this for a moment how can people who are spiritually poor, hungry and who with weeping seek God, be hated, it seems almost impossible for that to happen, as they don't seem to be much of a threat right? Wrong! Satan knows people who seek the Lord with this kind of attitude, who hunger after the Lord's righteousness, who's heart breaks at the sinfulness going on around them, these people will stop at nothing to see the strongholds of the enemy broken, so let's exclude them, revile them, regard them as evil
- When treated like this the natural response is to examine yourself and try and see what's wrong with me, why don't anyone like me or want to be around me, and that kind of thinking leads to compromise in order to be accepted. Instead Jesus says rejoice, leap for joy, you are in good company as the prophets before you also were persecuted, and now are rewarded.
- **V24-26** we go from "**blessed**" to "**Woe**" this is an expression of regret, and Jesus gives four "**woes**" **1<sup>st</sup>** woe to you who are rich- is to people who desire money over God's call for their lives, **2<sup>nd</sup>** woe to you who are full- living a self-indulgent life at the expense of surrendering to God's will, **3<sup>rd</sup>** woe to you who laugh- choosing pleasure over God's plan for your life, **4<sup>th</sup>** woe to you when all men speak well of you- you choose the praise of men over the praise of God.

- Notice like those earlier who are suffering for Godliness sake, it was only temporary, as they'll be rewarded later, so those who enjoy the pleasures of a sinful lifestyle its also only temporary, as their reward is coming and scripture says it will be accompanied with mourning and weeping, the key is it will no longer be temporary but eternal. To sum it up "**blessed are those who have and will give up everything to follow Jesus, and woe to them who refuse to give up anything to follow Him**". As those who once had suffered are now rejoicing, and those who were laughing then, are crying now, being separated from Him Who offered them eternal life,