

The Blessed Life - #7

Matthew 5:1-8 *“And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying: ‘Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the _____, for they shall be called _____ of _____.’”*

As a child of God, you are blessed by Him. The Bible says, your Heavenly Father ***“has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.”*** Ephesians 1:3

- You are declared blessed by God because all your sins are forgiven by grace through faith.
- You are declared blessed by God because you overcome the world through Faith in Jesus.
- Proverbs 4:18 says, ***“The path of the just is like the shining sun, that shines ever brighter unto the perfect day.”***

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.”

- The blessed life is a life of peace and peace-making.
- In a hostile, sinful world, peace is something most do not possess.
- The blessed life is a life that possesses _____ and makes peace _____.

Peace With _____.

- The Bible says our sin nature is hostile toward God and His commands. **Romans 8:7** ***“The carnal mind is _____ against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.”***
- In other words, my thoughts, and inward motivations, before I as was saved, were at war with God.
- God was not at war with me, whether I knew it or not, my inner self was hostile and at war with Him.

While we were still hostile sinners God sent His Son and angels declared it this way, **Luke 2:13-15** ***“Suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: ‘Glory to God in the highest, and on earth _____, _____ toward men!’ So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into Heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us.’”***

- Knowing our condition, our Great Peacemaker, our Great God conceived a plan.
- He sent His Son to pay the penalty for our sin and death.

Ephesians 2:14-16 *“For He Himself is our _____, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the _____, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus _____, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the _____.”*

It was God who made peace with us and offers it. To live the blessed life God intends for you to live, it all begins with repentance. **Romans 5:1-2** *“Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have _____ with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.”*
Peace With _____.

This is a difficult challenge once you have made peace with God. You cannot truly have peace on the inside, even after you’re saved, if you’re constantly beating yourself up all the time. The apostle Paul is a great example of maintaining peace with yourself. **Philippians 3:13-14** *“Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, _____ those things which are behind and reaching _____ to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”*

- For you and I to live the Blessed Life we must let things of the past go.
- Regrets, mistakes, hurts, would-be-successes must be intentionally put behind you!
- You cannot be a peacemaker if you are at war with yourself.

Peace With _____.

- One of the most challenging things about being a peacemaker is maintaining peace with those around you.
- What if someone is gossiping about you, or spreading lies about you at work, in the neighborhood, at school, or among family members? What do you do?
- Jesus wants you to be a peacemaker not a troublemaker, not a talebearer, not a strife-maker.
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Proverbs 16:28 *“A _____ person (not a blessed person) sows strife, and a whisperer separates the best of friends.”*

Proverbs 26:20 *“Where there is no wood, the fire goes out; And where there is no _____, strife ceases.”*

Declaration: *“Heavenly Father, thank you for your Son, my Savior Jesus Christ. Thank you for the blessed life you promised. Cleanse my heart all sin and hostility toward you, toward others, and toward myself. Empower me with your Holy Spirit. I let the past go and I press into all you have for me. Make me a Peacemaker. I want to be recognized by you as a child of God! In the mighty name of Jesus I pray, Amen.*