#### **Beatitudes – Peacemakers**

Video: Promised Land Mount Of Beatitudes | Daily Audio Bible | WorshipHouse Media

#### I. Introducing the start of something new

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed; and he healed them. (Matt 4:23-24)

Video: Blessed Are | Church Fuel | WorshipHouse Media

A. Are you more focused on safely getting to heaven than you are getting to be with God?

B. Jesus raising the bar?

Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret - it leads only to evil. (Ps 37:8)

Do not be quickly provoked in your spirit, for anger resides in the lap of fools. (Ecc 7:9)

Do not lust in your heart after her beauty or let her captivate you with her eyes. (*Prov 6:25*)

... You shall not covet your neighbor's wife .... (Ex 20:17)

#### II. The source of our peace

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. *(Is 9:6)* 

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. (*Rom 5:1*)

### **III.** Peace in all directions

# A. Peace with God

But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, . . . He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. (*Eph 2:13-18*)

# B. Ambassadors for others

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. *(II Cor 5:17-20)* 

# C. Peace with others

"Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to turn "a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law -a man's enemies will be the members of his own household." (*Matt 10:34-36*)

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. (*Heb 4:12*)

Biblical peacemaking involves assessing the claims of groups in conflict and making a judgment about who is correct and who is incorrect. Peacemaking, then, cannot be separated from truth telling. *(NT Wright)* 

Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge. (*Ps 51:4*)

# D. Peace within ourselves

1. Alone with our thoughts

"You can go three weeks without food, three days without water, and three minutes without air, but you cannot go three seconds without thinking." (Dr. Caroline Leaf)

Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God. (*Ps 43:5*)

The fruit of that righteousness will be peace; its effect will be quietness and confidence forever. (Is 32:17)

2. Can peace be found in not understanding?

And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (*Phil 4:7*)

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. (Rom 8:28)

#### IV. Children of God

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. (Matt 5:9)

Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God (*John 1:12*)