

MATTHEW: MEET THE KING WHO SAVES
True Happiness – Not What You Think
Matthew 5:1-4
March 16, 2025

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Finding True Happiness will be Contrary to this World

1. The source of happiness is contrary to this world (5:1-3).

The crowds gathered – the disciples followed – Jesus taught

Jesus was going all over Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. (Mt 4:23)

Blessed – happy, fortunate, blissful; an inward contentedness that is not affected by circumstances.

How happy is the man who does not follow the advice of the wicked or take the path of sinners or join a group of mockers! Instead, his delight is in the LORD's instruction, and he meditates on it day and night. He is like a tree planted beside streams of water that bears its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers. (Ps 1:1–3)

2. The pathway to happiness is contrary to this world (5:3-4).

The poor in spirit are blessed (supremely happy)

- The recognition of one's spiritual poverty apart from God

"Two men went up to the temple complex to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee took his stand and was praying like this: 'God, I thank You that I'm not like other people —greedy, unrighteous, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of everything I get.'"

"But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even raise his eyes to heaven but kept striking his chest and saying, 'God, turn Your wrath from me —a sinner!' I tell you, this one went down to his house justified rather than the other; because everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." (Lk 18:10–14)

Those who mourn are blessed (supremely happy)

- Not the sorrow of bereavement but the sorrow of repentance

For the kind of sorrow God wants us to experience leads us away from sin and results in salvation. There's no regret for that kind of sorrow. But worldly sorrow, which lacks repentance, results in spiritual death. (2 Co 7:10)

3. The experience of happiness is contrary to this world (5:3-4).

Theirs is the kingdom of heaven

They (and they alone) will be comforted

Oh, what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven, whose sin is put out of sight! Yes, what joy for those whose record the LORD has cleared of guilt, whose lives are lived in complete honesty! (Ps 32:1–2)

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