

Full Sermon is [\[HERE\]](#).

## **Sermon Summary**

**January 14, 2024**

### **Matthew 5:4 A Biblical Consideration of Sin**

"Mourning over sin draws us closer to God's heart and deepens our fellowship with Jesus." #MourningSin #CloserToGod

"Sin's allure is a heavy burden, but in Christ, we find overwhelming hope and victory." #SinAndSalvation #HopeInChrist

"An authentic relationship with Jesus transforms us beyond measure." #TransformationInChrist #AuthenticRelationship

"To mourn our sins is to seek healing and redemption through Christ." #HealingInChrist #Redemption

"Mourning sin leads to decisive faith-based action." #MourningSin #FaithBasedAction #Sermon

"Grace, not rules, is crucial in overcoming the darkness of sin." #GraceWins #OvercomeSin

"The Holy Spirit brings comfort to those who are honest about their sin and seek redemption." #HolySpiritComfort #HonestyInSin

"A heart that mourns sin is a heart that God will comfort and give courage to face life's battles." #MourningHeart #CourageFromGod

## **Overview**

Listen in as we continue unpacking Jesus' Sermon on the Mount here in the opening verses of what are referred to as the Beatitudes. Last time we looked at just what Jesus had in mind with the necessity of poverty of spirit as a gateway to an enriched fellowship with Himself. Today's sermon takes you on a journey through the blessings of mourning (yup, you read that right), specifically mourning over sin, and how this practice can draw us closer to the heart of God. Discover the beauty of the Beatitudes as a living treasure map guiding us beyond the world's demands and the enemy's schemes, leading us to a life of abundant joy and fulfillment in Christ.

Our conversation emphasizes the weighty subject of sin, its allure, and devastating consequences. We tackle the common pitfalls of minimizing sin and the dangers of a rules-

based approach to Christianity. Through Scripture and life examples, we emphasize the transformative power of a relationship with Jesus and how His grace enables us to overcome the darkness of sin. This chapter is not just a theoretical exchange; it's a call to recognize the urgency of addressing sin in our lives and the world around us.

In our final reflection, we delve into the emotional and spiritual response to sin and the importance of mourning its impact on our lives and our communities. We share personal anecdotes and scriptural insights that highlight God's unending love for us and His deep desire to gather His children under His protective wing. Tune in and buckle up for a biblical teaching that challenges, comforts, and compels us to confront the reality of sin with the hope and victory found in Jesus Christ.

#Beatitudes                      #TransformativeJourney                      #Mourning                      #Sin                      #JesusChrist  
#AbundantJoy                      #AuthenticRelationship                      #Hope                      #Victory

### **Takeaways for the Week**

1. Having been emptied of our prideful self and filled with the very character of God in the first Beatitude, Jesus is now inviting us to grasp the evilness of and to hate that which wars against and keeps us from Him, sin.
2. Sin matters. Sin robs us (individually and His church) of His abiding presence and power.
3. We discussed the importance of mourning our sins and those of the world as we see the inconceivable cost sin exacts from us, our families, friends, neighbors, and all of culture.
4. God hates sin and calls us to see and hate it as well. It is seeing the evil of sin in light of His righteousness that we see and respond to the depth of our need for Him.
5. In hating and confronting sin, we see the Beatitudes not as a checklist of rules, but a treasure map revealing God's grace as our stronghold as He blesses us beyond measure.
6. We were reminded of the need to support one another within our church community, extending grace and mercy as we collectively seek healing through Christ.

### **Questions For Consideration and Prayer**

1. Reflecting on the sermon's focus on the Beatitudes, specifically Matthew 5:4, how does "mourning" over our sins draw us closer to God, and how can this process transform our spiritual lives?
2. The sermon shares insights into the nature of human sinfulness and God's hatred of sin. How can understanding God's perspective on sin, as revealed in scriptures such as James

4:7-10 and Proverbs 8:13, impact our response to sin in our own lives and in the world around us?

3. Reflecting on Matthew 23:37-39, the sermon highlights God's desire to protect and gather His children. How can this understanding of God's love influence the way we view our own failings and those of others?
4. As we consider the call to arms against sin, what are some practical ways we can engage in this battle while maintaining the hope and victory that is found in Jesus Christ?
5. The sermon discusses the emotional response to sin and its consequences. How can we cultivate a heart that mourns sin genuinely, leading us to decisive faith-based action, as encouraged by Matthew 5:4?
6. The sermon suggests that mourning over sin can draw us closer to God's heart. Discuss examples from Scripture where individuals or communities mourned their sin and found redemption and spiritual growth. (Consider looking at 2 Samuel 12:13, Luke 18:13, and Acts 3:19 for discussion)
7. How does the idea of being "blessed" while mourning challenge our typical understanding of happiness and blessing?
8. Sin is often minimized or justified in our lives. What are some ways that we can actively resist the temptation to downplay our sins, and instead, confront them with a heart of repentance as seen in 1 John 1:9?
9. The sermon emphasizes the need to hate sin for what it is and what it does. How does this align with God's view of sin, and how can we cultivate a similar perspective? Consider Proverbs 8:13 and Hebrews 1:9 in your discussion.
10. Discuss the blessing that God promises to those who mourn, as highlighted in Matthew 5:4.