NORTH

PRIORITIES FROM THE PARABLES

SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them saying...

MATTHEW 5:1-2

Blessed are the

BIG ROCKS FIRST

"Seek first the kingdom of God"

Where do your priorities lie?

1. Poor in Spirit PRIORITY OF <u>HUMILITY</u>

"The Pharisee & Publican"

2. Mourn PRIORITY OF TRUST "Parable of the Weeds"

3. Meek PRIORITY OF <u>SELF-CONTROL</u>

"Parable of the Wedding Feast"

4. Hunger and Thirst for...

Fourth Beatitude

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for <u>righteousness</u>, for they will be satisfied.

Matthew 5:6



"AS THE DEER PANTETH FOR THE WATER, SO PANTS MY SOUL FOR YOU, O GOD. MY SOUL THIRSTS FOR GOD, FOR THE LIVING GOD, WHEN SHALL I COME AND APPEAR BEFORE GOD?"

PSALM 42:1-2

RIFT FALTOR

Exists when there is a rift between how we LONG to live and how we are CALLED to live.

"THE GREATEST THREAT TO A HUNGER FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS IS A THIRST FOR SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS"

SELF-RIGHTEOUS?

8 CHARACTERISTICS

Repel People
Lack Compassion
Parade Good Behavior
Point out Flaws
Justify Positions
Behave Entitled
Become the Authority
Quick to Anger

Adapted from becomingchristian "Deadliest signs of self-righteousness you did not know."

"Cast Alongside"

THE PRODIGAL SON(s)

One refused to stay... One refused to come...

RECKLESS ARE THEY THAT HUNGER & THIRST FOR SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS

TWO SONS

And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me'

DIVIDED HIS PROPERTY

And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far away county,

RECKLESS LIVING

And there he squandered his property in reckless living.

RECKLESS LIVING

"GIVE ME MY SHARE" "GATHERED ALL HE HAD" "FAR AWAY COUNTRY" "SQUANDERED HIS PROPERTY"

ONE WHO TAKES AN ACTION WITHOUT THINKING OR CARING ABOUT THE RAMIFICATIONS.

SEVERE FAMINE

And when he had spent everything, a sever famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need.

LONGING TO BE FED

So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

"BEGAN TO BE IN NEED" "HIRED HIMSELF OUT" "LONGING TO BE FED" "NO ONE GAVE HIM ANYTHING"

THE PLACE ONE HAS REACHED WHEN THERE IS NOTHING LEFT TO LOSE.

CAME TO HIMSELF

But when he came to himself, he said, "How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger!

I WILL SAY TO HIM

I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."

CAME TO HIS FATHER

And he arose and came to his father.

STILL A LONG WAY OFF

But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

I HAVE SINNED

And he said to him, "Father I have sinned against heaven and before you, I am no longer worthy to be called your son.

BRING QUICKLY

But the father said to his servants, bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet.

SACRIFICE

And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to celebrate.

REAL SATISFACTION

IS BEING RIGHT WITH GOD AND BEING RIGHT BEFORE GOD.

"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

2 PETER 3:18

Older Brother

Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant.

YOUR BROTHER IS BACK!

And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.'

REFUSED TO GO IN

But he was angry and refused to go in.

RECKLESS LIVING

"HE WAS ANGRY" "REFUSED TO GO IN"

ONE WHO TAKES AN ACTION WITHOUT THINKING OR CARING ABOUT THE RAMIFICATIONS.

I HAVE OBEYED YOU!

His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command,

THIS SON OF YOURS

Yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!'

"LOOK!" "THIS SON OF YOURS!" "KILLED THE FATTENED CALF?"

KOIK H

OLDER BROTHER

And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive, he was lost, and is found.

"Cast Alongside"

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One refused to stay... One refused to come...

RECKLESS ARE THEY THAT HUNGER & THIRST FOR SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS

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The Fourth Beatitude

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.

Matthew 5:6

REAL SATISFACTION

IS BEING RIGHT WITH GOD AND BEING RIGHT BEFORE GOD.

"As the deer panteth for the water, so pants my soul for you, o god. my soul thirsts for God, for the living God, when shall I come and appear before God?" Psalm 42:1-2



"For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like."

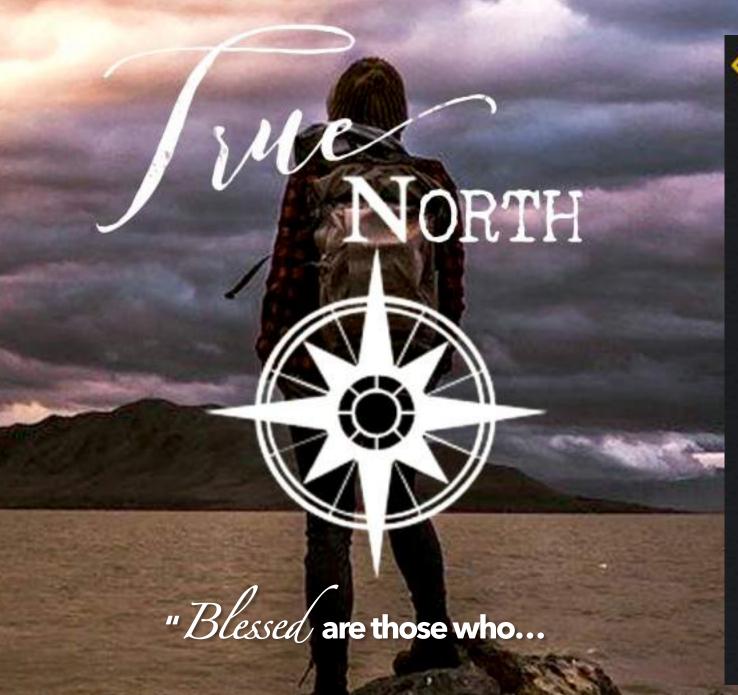
JAMES 1: 23-24

TRUE NORTH LIVING

"DO THE NEXT HARD <u>RIGHT</u> THING OVER THE NEXT EASY <u>WRONG</u> THING."

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO HUNGER & THIRST FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS



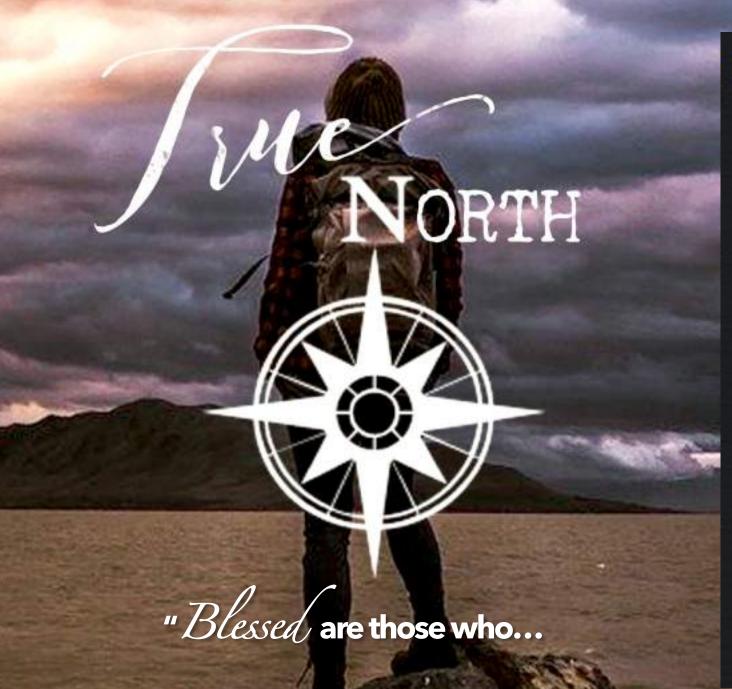


Kotes

8 PRIORITIES OF THOSE WHO "HUNGER & THIRST FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS"

Weigh the following in the balance...

- 1. OBEDIENCE > Indulgence
- 2. WISDOM > Recklessness
- 3. GRATITUDE > Entitlement
- 4. SUBMISSION > Stubbornness
- 5. RELATIONSHIPS > Positions
- 6. GRACE > Judgment
- 7. RECONCILIATION > Resentment
- 8. RIGHTEOUSNESS > Self-righteousness



Notes

8 PRIORITIES OF THOSE WHO "HUNGER & THIRST FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS"

The Self-Righteous Sons

- 1. HIS WILL > Relationship
- 2. GUILT > Grace
- 3. ENTITLEMENT > Gratitude
- 4. EASY WRONG > Hard Right

The Righteous Father

- 1. RELATIONSHIP > His Will
- 2. GRACE > Guilt
- 3. GRATITUDE > Entitlement
- 4. HARD RIGHT > Easy Wrong

RIFT FACTOR

Exists when there is a rift between how we LONG to live and how we are CALLED to live.



CASTING CROWNS





MATTHEW WEST

"THE GREATEST THREAT TO A HUNGER FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS IS A THIRST FOR SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS"

#HUNGERANDTHIRSTFORRIGHTEOUSNESS



Where do your priorities lie?

1. Poor in Spirit

PRIORITY OF **HUMILITY** "The Pharisee & Publican"

2. Mourn

PRIORITY OF **TRUST** "Parable of the Weeds"

3. Meek

PRIORITY OF **SELFLESSNESS** "Parable of the Wedding Feast"

4. Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness PRIORITY OF OBEDIENCE "Parable of the Prodigal Son"