

Pure Discipleship in a Corrupt World -The Sermon on the Mount.

Part 1. "**Blessings in Humility**" Matthew 5:1-6

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Introduction: The need for "Pure Discipleship" in an era of pretense, spiritual arrogance, and false pride. What is humility and why is it needed? "You are too humble". "Unless you promote yourself, you will get nowhere." "He is a humble man, he may stutter, but at least he prays." What are the pros and cons of humility?

I. The Priority and Posture of Pure Humility (1-2)

- A. What key need did Jesus see in the crowds? (1a) *1 Now when Jesus saw the crowds,*
- B. Why did Jesus sit down to teach on the mountain? (1b) *he went up on a mountainside and sat down.*
- C. Who was there when Jesus taught? (1c-2) *His disciples came to him, 2 and he began to teach them. He said:*

II. Blessings of pure poverty (knowing one's need for God) (3)

- A. God's love of pure and honest confession (3a) *3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit,*
- B. God's grace is given for Kingdom inheritance (3b) *for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

III. Blessings from pure brokenness (knowing the healing love of God) (4)

- A. God's ministry of cleansing and healing. (4a) *4 Blessed are those who mourn,*
- B. God's ministry of comfort and restoration (4b) *for they will be comforted.*

IV. Blessings from Being open and available to God (5)

- A. God's revelation to the meek (5a) *5 Blessed are the meek,*
- B. God's blesses the willing and faithful on earth (5b) *for they will inherit the earth.*
 1. The fruit of the Spirit. (Spiritual blessing and legacy)
 2. Inclusion in God's plan of redemption. (Citizenship in God's Kingdom)

V. Blessings for the Compassionate (Knowing the heart of God) (6)

- A. God's care for our pure hope and longings (6a) *6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,*
- B. God's desire to satisfy us in righteousness (6b) *for they will be filled.*

VI. **Conclusion:** The path of blessing with God begins with humility, grows through service and compassion and is effective through truthfulness and perseverance. Jesus leads the way into a genuine and truly blessed relationship with God our Heavenly Father. Pure discipleship begins with following Jesus Christ, not only in name, but in heart and actions.

1 Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, 2 and he began to teach them. He said: 3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. 5 Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. 6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. (Matthew 5:1-6 NIV)

Questions:

1. What "mountainside of life" has inspired or challenged you? (These are moments when we must decide what our ultimate hope and faith is.)
2. What blessings does Jesus promise the "humble"? (v. 3-5) How have you experienced His ministry of grace when you have prayed?
3. What blessings does Jesus reveal for the compassionate? (6-9) How have you been blessed by those who had compassion on you?
4. What blessings of encouragement does Jesus give the truthful? (10-12) How have we seen Christians deceived by people who have been untruthful? Why is it important to be discerning to stay pure of faith?
5. How well are you doing in your discipleship in following Jesus? What would you like to improve or change? Why is purity important?