

JESUS SAYS – “You’re Blessed”

April 15-16, 2023

Matthew 5:1-4 (NIV) – Now when Jesus saw the crowds, He went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to Him, and He began to teach them. He said: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted”.

“A crypt or cavern would have been out of all character for a message which is to be published upon the housetops, and preached to every creature under heaven” – **Charles Spurgeon**

“**blessed**” = Greek *makarios* - “happy, blessed, to be envied”

“*Makarios* then describes that joy which has its secret within itself, that joy which is serene and untouchable, and self-contained, that joy which is completely independent of all the chances and changes of life” – **William Barclay**

Luke 18:9-14 (NIV) – To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people – robbers, evildoers, adulterers – or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get’. But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner’. I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted”.

JESUS SAYS – “You’re Blessed”

April 15-16, 2023

Psalm 51:16-17 (NKJV) – “For you do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; you do not delight in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and contrite heart – these, O God, you will not despise”.

2 Corinthians 7:10 (NIV) – “Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death”.

Matthew 5:5-6 (NIV) – “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled”.

“The meek of England, driven from their native land by religious intolerance, have inherited the continent of America” – **A.B. Bruce**

Matthew 5:7-9 (NIV) - “Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God”.

Matthew 18:35 (NIV) – “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart”.

Matthew 5:10-12 (NIV) – “Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you”.

JESUS SAYS – “You’re Blessed”

April 15-16, 2023

1 Peter 3:15-17 (NIV) – “But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. For it is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil”.

1 Peter 4:16 (NIV) – “However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name”.

“Out of 100 men, one will read the Bible, the other 99 will read the Christian” – ***Dwight L. Moody***

Matthew 5:13-16 (NIV) – “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven”.