



Introduction

- The Beatitudes serve as marks of Christian character and evidence of salvation.
- "Blessed" refers to covenantal happiness, not always immediate emotional joy.
- Found in Matthew 5:1–10, within Jesus' Sermon on the Mount.
- Divided into:
 - **Internal marks:** attitudes of the heart (vv. 3–6).
 - **Relational marks:** outward expressions in the world (vv. 7–10).
- First four (internal) align with the last four (external):
 - Poor in spirit → Merciful
 - Mourning → Pure in heart
 - Meek → Peacemakers
 - Hungering for righteousness → Persecuted for righteousness

Internal Marks of Kingdom Heirs

Poor in Spirit (v.3)

- Means spiritual poverty and dependence on God, not economic lack. (Luke 4:18–19)
- Opposite of self-reliance or self-righteousness.
- The kingdom of heaven belongs to those who humbly acknowledge their sin and need for grace.

Those Who Mourn (v.4)

- Mourning refers to godly sorrow over sin, not worldly grief. (2 Corinthians 7:10)
- Leads to repentance and comfort in Christ.

The Meek (v.5)

- Meekness is humble strength and patience, not weakness.
- Trusting God's justice and timing, even under injustice.
- Echoes Psalm 37: the meek will inherit the earth. (Psalm 37:9–11)
- Applies to authority. (2 Corinthians 10:1–2)



Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness (v.6)

- A deep longing for God's righteousness.
- Fulfilled in Christ both positionally (justification) and progressively (sanctification).
- Only those who understand their spiritual poverty will truly hunger for righteousness.

Outward Relations of Kingdom Heirs

The Merciful (v.7)

- Those who show mercy will receive mercy.
- Forgiveness flows from having been forgiven. (Matthew 18:23–35)
- Mercy is an indicator of true conversion. (James 2:12–13)

The Pure in Heart (v.8)

- Internal purity, not external ritualism. (Matthew 15:10–20)
- Results from the Holy Spirit's work of cleansing.
- The pure in heart will ultimately see God. (James 1:27)
- Love from pure hearts. (1 Peter 1:22–23)

The Peacemakers (v.9)

- Seek reconciliation with God and others.
- True peacemaking is grounded in God's truth, not compromise. (James 3:17–18, Ephesians 4:1–3)
- Will be called sons of God in the final revelation of the kingdom.

Those Persecuted for Righteousness (vv.10–12)

- Persecution is expected for those who live godly lives. (Matthew 5:11)
- Includes reviling and slander as well as physical harm. (2 Timothy 3:12–14)
- Kingdom inheritance is promised both now and in the future.

Conclusion

- Not looking for perfection but presence
- Examination – 2 Corinthians 13:5



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- Look at ourselves
 - Look at how we interact with others
 - Look to Christ