

WELCOME!

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Matthew 5 - 7

INTRODUCTION

- **THE BEATITUDES:**

Matthew 5: 1-12

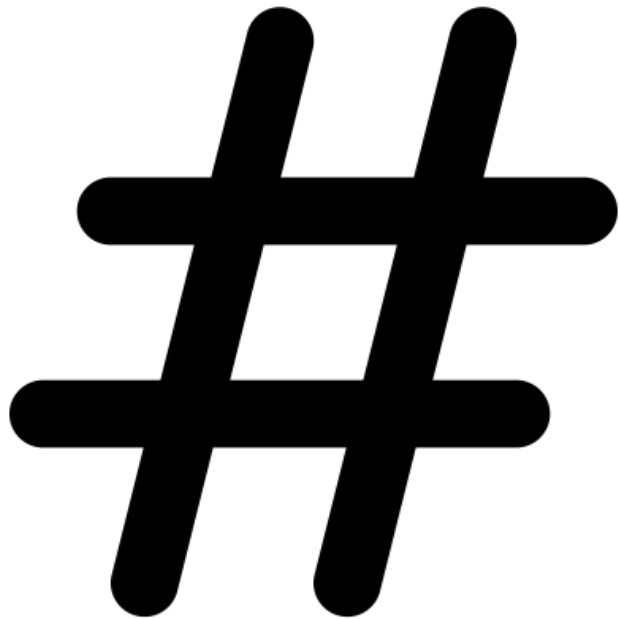
- **“BUT I SAY TO YOU...”:**

Matthew 5: 21-48



THE MISSION

Jesus' central message :
The KOG is arriving!
God is doing something
unprecedented.
Orient your life to it
so you don't miss it!



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-NC](#)

BLESSED

When/Where
do you see this?

**WHAT DOES
BLESSING
LOOK LIKE
IN THE
KINGDOM
OF GOD?**



BEATITUDES/ BEATUS

- **Beatus Latin** for the Greek *Makarios* (*Mak/ Macro*) “*blessed*”, “*deep happiness*”
- **Blessed** -> “the grace that comes of living as a citizen of heaven ...”
(Craig Barnes)
- **Blessed Are** -> Describes what life looks like under the KOG beginning NOW



THE BEATITUDES

- ¹ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- ² “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
- ³ “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
- ⁴ “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

THE BEATITUDES (Con.'t)

- 5 Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

- 6 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
- 7 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
- 8 Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 9 Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

FIRST RXNS?

Poetic...Peaceful...

Beautiful?

Challenging...Confusing

Unexpected...Subversive

?

- *“Struck by their poetic beauty and overwhelmed by their impracticability in our world” (C.J. Cook)*
- *An “Impossible Possibility” R. Niebuhr*
- ***In all languages there is not a discourse to be found that can compare with it for purity, truth, beauty, and dignity.” Albert Barnes***

WHAT DOES BLESSING LOOK LIKE in the KINGDOM OF GOD?

*....Deconstruct
to
Reconstruct...*





What the Beatitudes Are Not...

- Platitudes(Beatitudes, not Platitudes)
- To Do List / Transactions
- Get out of Jail Free Cards
- Pie in the Sky By and By

What the Beatitudes Are...

- Blessings
- Great Reversals
- View -> the Eyes of Jesus
- Embodied in Jesus' Ministry



THE GREAT REVERSAL

- I think Jesus should have asked the crowd to stand on their heads when he taught them the Beatitudes, because that is what he was doing. He was turning the known world upside down so that those who had been fighting for breath at the bottom of the human heap suddenly found themselves closest to heaven, while those who thought they were on top of things found themselves flat on their backs looking up.” (BB Taylor)

What the Beatitudes Are...

- Blessings
- Great Reversals
- New Sight
- Embodied in Jesus' Ministry



1 "Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of
heaven.

*"You're blessed
when you're at the end of your rope.*

*With less of you
there is more of God and his rule."*

Eugene Peterson



2 Blessed are they who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

Individual & Communal

- The word “comfort” is *parakaleō* => “someone called alongside to help.”



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY](#)

Blessed are the meek,
for they will
inherit the earth.

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





A COMMUNAL BLESSING

- “Blessed are the merciful,
for they will receive mercy.



“Blessed are
the pure heart,
for they will see
God.”

“Blessed are
the peacemakers,
for they will be
called
children of God.”



“Blessed are those who are persecuted for
the sake of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

Blessed are you when people revile you and
persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you
falsely on my account. **Rejoice and be glad, for
your reward is great in heaven,** for in the same
way they persecuted the prophets who were before
you.



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-ND](#)

Upside
down,
you
begin to
see
God's
blessed
ones

- **...in places it would never have occurred to you to look.** You begin to see that the poor in spirit, the meek and those who mourn are not just people you can help but people who can help you...and that their hunger and thirst for God are not voids to be filled but appetites to be envied.
- “...Upside down, you begin to see that those who have been bruised for their faith are not the sad ones **but the happy ones because they have found something worth being bruised for....**
- “The world looks funny upside down, **but maybe that is just how it looks when you have got your feet planted in heaven.**” (BB Taylor)

MATTHEW 5:21-48

“THE LAW, THE KINGDOM & RIGHTEOUSNESS”

Jesus teaches the Law and the Kingdom of God’s greater righteousness.

Matt 5:17, 20:

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ... For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

MATTHEW 5:21-48
“THE SIX ANTITHESES”

YOU HAVE HEARD IT SAID

Do not murder

Do not commit adultery

Give a certificate of divorce

Do not swear falsely; fulfill your oaths

An eye for an eye

Love you neighbor, hate your enemy

BUT I SAY TO YOU

Do not be angry nor insult

Do not lust

Do not divorce

Do not swear at all

Do not resist the evildoer

Love your enemies & pray for them

MATTHEW 5:21-48
“THE SIX ANTITHESES”

Pattern:

- 1) “You have heard that it was said”: Quote from the OT Law
- 2) “But I say to you” – the greater righteousness of the Kingdom
- 3) Real life illustrations

“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’”

“Do not kill” = Exodus 20:13 (6th Commandment)

”Whoever murders shall be liable to judgment”:

- Exodus 21:12 – “Whoever strikes a person mortally shall be put to death.”
- Leviticus 24:17 – “Anyone who kills a human being shall be put to death.
- Numbers 35:16-21 – “Or anyone who strikes another with a stone in hand that could cause death, and death ensues, is a murderer; the murderer shall be put to death. ...”



MATTHEW 5:22

“BUT I SAY TO YOU ...”

MATTHEW 5:22

“BUT IS SAY TO YOU...”

- 1) Do not **be angry** with a brother/sister
- 2) Do not **insult** a brother/sister
- 3) Do not call a brother/sister **“Fool”**

...or you will be liable to judgment.”

MATTHEW 5:23-24

(Illustration #1)

”So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift.”

MATTHEW 5:25-26

(Illustration #2)

“Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.”

MATTHEW 5:21-26

“DO NOT MURDER” = DO NOT BE ANGRY

“The underlying and key message of these astonishingly authoritative words is that a person is held accountable for his or her angry thoughts, not merely for external acts of violence against others. Here, as in the beatitudes, the truly revolutionary character of the kingdom and its ethics makes itself felt.”

(Donald Hagner)

THE LARGER CATECHISM (1648)

Q. 134. Which is the Sixth Commandment?

Q 135. What are the duties required in the Sixth Commandment?

Q. 136. What are the sins forbidden in the Sixth Commandment?

MATTHEW 5:27-28

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’

“BUT IS SAY TO YOU...”

“... everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”

MATTHEW 5:27-30

“DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY” = DO NOT LUST

“Do not commit adultery” = Exodus 20:14 (7th Commandment)

MATTHEW 5:29-30

(2 Intensifications)

“If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.”

“When you have made your eye the instrument of impurity, you cannot see God with it. . . . Jesus does not impose intolerable restrictions on his disciples, he does not forbid them to look at anything, but bids them to look on him”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer
The Cost of Discipleship

Q&A

Next week:

Read Matthew 5:38-48

Matthew 6: 1-18

Blessings!

