



Part 2

The Beatitudes

Matthew 5:3 - NIV

**“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Matthew 5:4

**Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.**

Matthew 5:5

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

Matthew 5:6

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

Matthew 5:7

Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

Matthew 5:8

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

Matthew 5:9

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

Matthew 5:10

**Blessed are those who are
persecuted because of
righteousness, for theirs
is the kingdom of heaven.**

Matthew 5:11

Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.

Matthew 5:12

Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Matthew 5:13

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.

Matthew 5:14

**You are the light of the world.
A town built on a hill cannot
be hidden.**

Matthew 5:15

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.

Matthew 5:16

**In the same way, let your light shine
before others, that they may see
your good deeds and glorify your
Father in heaven.**



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Principle #1

The direct teaching of God in the flesh on earth was designed to wreck and then correct our understanding of God and His upside down and backwards kingdom.

Since God's Kingdom is upside down and backwards in comparison to our world, Jesus' intentional and direct teaching to His disciples should cause us to re-examine our understanding of what being "blessed" really means and what life looks like for those who are truly blessed by God.

Makarios/Blessed

Makarios is a state of existence in relationship to God in which a person is “blessed” or “favored” from God’s perspective. ***Makarios*** doesn’t require feeling happy nor is it dependent on presently experiencing good fortune.

Makarios/Blessed

Pain, suffering, brokenness, or adverse conditions cannot take away the blessedness of those who are in a loving and intimate relationship with the Lord Our God.

Principle #1

The direct teaching of God in the flesh on earth was designed to wreck and then correct our understanding of God and His upside down and backwards kingdom.

Principle #2

The reality of who God is and the reality of what He values, all of which can be found in His Word, is more often than not, upside down and backwards in comparison to what many of us value, pursue, or think.

Matthew 5:3 - NIV

**“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

This first beatitude undercuts the predominant worldview that assumes that material blessings are a sign of God's approval in one's life and that they automatically flow from one's spiritual blessings.

“Poor in spirit”

Those who are spiritually, emotionally, relationally, financially, or wholistically needy, poor, bankrupt, oppressed, or disillusioned and who know that they are in desperate need of God’s help and intervention.

Principle #2

The reality of who God is and the reality of what He values, all of which can be found in His Word, is more often than not, upside down and backwards in comparison to what many of us value, pursue, or think.

Principle #3

In God's Upside Down and Backwards Kingdom, being "blessed" by God is both a present and a future reality within God's already here but not yet fully here Kingdom on earth.

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Already/But Not Yet

- *Poor* - for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- *Mourn, meek, hungry and thirsty, merciful, pure in heart, and peacemakers* - for they will...
- *Persecuted* – for theirs is...

Principle #3

In God's Upside Down and Backwards Kingdom, being "blessed" by God is both a present and a future reality within God's already here but not yet fully here Kingdom on earth.

Principle #4

In God's Kingdom, everyone's life has great value totally apart from what the world thinks of him or her.

God loves us even if no one else does.

God sees us and knows us, even if no one else does.

Principle #5

If we are going to take our God given identities as the salt and light of the earth seriously, we must prioritize having encounters and relationships with the lost and dying so that God's transformative power can be revealed.

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Principle #6

Any local church gathering that consistently prioritizes its own needs, wants, and desires more than it focuses on and dedicates itself to obeying the Lord's Great Commission, has lost its way.

Principle #7

All of creation cries out in pain as it witnesses the differences between who we value, what we value, and how we do things versus who God values, what He values, and how He wants us to do things.

Luke 4:18

**“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
for he has anointed me to bring
Good News to the poor. He has sent
me to proclaim that captives will be
released, that the blind will see,**

Luke 4:19

**that the oppressed will be set free,
and that the time of the Lord's favor
has come.”**

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