

Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit

Wylie Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – April 16, 2023

Matthew 5:1-12

1 Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, 2 and he began to teach them, saying: 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. 7 Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. 8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. 9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. 10 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. 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."

1. JESUS DESIRES BLESSINGS FOR YOU

Matthew 5:3

"Blessed are..."

Blessed describes "a state of well-being and divine favor".

2. A HUMBLE HEART PRODUCES BLESSING

Matthew 5:3

"Blessed are the poor in spirit..."

To be poor in spirit is to recognize our utter spiritual bankruptcy before God.

1 Peter 5:6

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

Philippians 3:4, 7-9

4... If anyone else thinks he has reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: 5-6... 7 But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. 8 What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ — the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith.

3. THE POOR IN SPIRIT INHERIT GOD'S KINGDOM

Matthew 5:3

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

In God's kingdom...

- The first must be last
- The proud must be humble
- The weak are strong
- Arrogance must give way to mercy
- The poor in spirit wins

Only the poor in spirit can inherit the kingdom of heaven.

John 15:5

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

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