

### Discovery of the Intent of God

- Opinions of what is this sermon all about.
- Beatitudes
- Three elements
  - State of those who believe
  - Correspondence of the state and the who
  - Who are those who believe
  - Conclusion



Tonight's outline

### Opinions are like belly buttons.

- A new standard to convict of sin
- A calling to social justice
- A solution to the ills of the Christian
- Simpler solution to church
- A source for 'Proof text' almost anything
- A great theology
- A path to an implementation of the Kingdom
- An exclusive message to the Sons of Abraham
- A continuation to the ministry of John the Baptist.
- A description of a special class of believers

**EACH OF THESE OPINIONS ARE TRYING** TO SEPARATE THE BLESSINGS. ABOUT GROUPS, PEOPLES, TIMES, CHARACTERISTIC, CLASS, SINFULNESS OR SPIRITUAL STATUS.

### Blessed

- Нарру
  - Momentary emotion
  - Reactionary
  - Response to Grace
- Blessed
  - Bestowed upon another
  - God blesses a people
  - I can bless God
  - Response to Mercy
- Overcoming destiny
  - Inevitability
  - Ultimate end
  - Response to Prophecy

A joy filled response to God's intercession of grace and mercy to the ultimate fate of man

## The Beatitudes were never to be separated

- A description of Grace and Mercy bestowed on all believers.
- Each is an inclusive characteristic of EVERY believer.
- Jesus was the example of this sermon

JESUS DOES NOT SAY THAT IF ONE LIVES A CERTAIN WAY THEN HE WILL BECOME A CHRISTIAN INSTEAD, HE SAYS,

THAT BECAUSE ONE IS A CHRISTIAN HE SHOULD, THEREFORE, LIVE A CERTAIN WAY.

#### A.W. TOZER – From the sinners point of view

- Instead of poverty of spirit we find the rankest kind of pride;
- instead of mourners we find pleasure seekers;
- instead of meekness, arrogance;
- instead of hunger after righteousness we hear men saying, `I am rich and increased with goods and have need of nothing';
- instead of mercy we find cruelty;
- instead of purity of heart, corrupt imaginings;
- · instead of peacemakers we find men quarrelsome and resentful and divided;
- instead of rejoicing in mistreatment we find them fighting back with every weapon at their command.
- Instead of being full of joy when someone lies to you we spit in their face.
- Of this kind of moral stuff civilized society is composed.

The Beatitudes is about the totality of a believer's character.

A believer's character determines their happiness and reward.

Any one beatitude is no more important than the other.

The believer is accountable for them all

# Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven

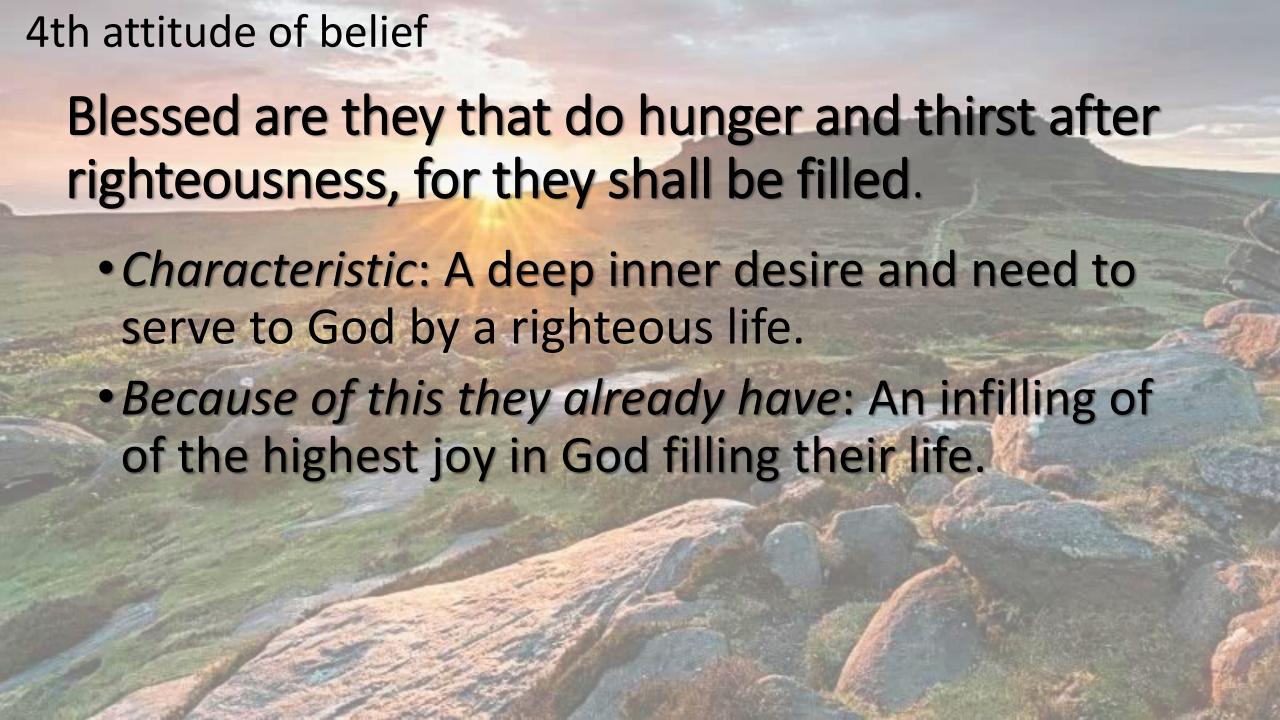
- Characteristic:
  - Humble are those who are conscious of their imperfections and unworthiness before God, and never think that they are better or more holy than others.
- Because of this they already have: Kingdom of Heaven. The Reign of God already dwells in your life.

Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.

- Characteristic: Repentance, sorrow, apologetic
  - Repentance for the kingdom of heaven is coming
  - Recognition of the need for Grace
- Because of this they already have: The comfort of forgiveness

# Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

- Characteristic: Patient endurance of insults inflicted by others and is the opposite of anger, malice, self-exaltation and vengeance.
  - Strength under control
  - Regret of hurting others by thought, word and deed
- Because of this they already have: An inheritance of earth.



# Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy

- Characteristic: Compassion for others, an inner pity for those who have fallen into misfortune or unhappiness. Not punishing when it is deserved.
- Because of this they already have: The mercy of forgiveness of God who delivered from their sin

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

- Characteristic: Those who have experienced the Grace of God, obtained the Mercy of God and have been forgiven
- Because of this they already have: A vision of God in everything they see and do. New spiritual eyes.

## Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.

- Characteristic: Peacemakers are people living with everyone in peace and harmony and fostering peace among people. When other people are at enmity among themselves, they try to reconcile them, or at least pray to God for their reconciliation.
- Because of this they already have: A new relationship with God with a united cause to increase the family of God.

- Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.
  - Characteristic: Smiling in the face of those who would tear you down for your stand for Jesus.
     Shouldering the cross in your life
  - Because of this they already have: Kingdom of Heaven. The Reign of God already dwells in your life.

- Blessed are ye when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad, for great is your reward in Heaven.
  - Characteristic: patiently bear disgrace, persecution, malice, defamation, mockery, privation and even death.
  - Because of this they already have: Joy and gladness for a reward awaits in Heaven.

### What are the characteristics of blessing?

Galatians 5:22-23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

#### Nine to Nine Exercise

Fruit of the Spirit Galatians 5:22-23

Love

Joy

Peace

**Patience** 

Kindness

Goodness

Faithfulness

Gentleness

Self-control

**Beatitudes Matthew 5:3-11** 

Poor in spirit 

Kingdom

Mourn — Comforted

Meek — Inheritance

Hunger and thirst — Filled

Merciful — Mercy

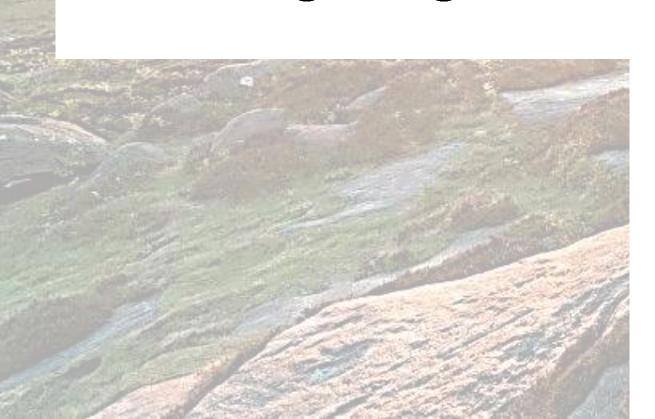
Pure in heart — Vision

Peacemakers — Peace

Persecuted Relationship

Insulted — Joy

"All of the beatitudes, like the virtues, go together"



The Beatitudes tell us how to live on earth- including in our marriages and family lives- so that we may live forever in heaven.



