

## BEATITUDES - spiritual well-being and prosperity,"

**The Greek word translated blessed means "spiritual well-being and prosperity," the deep joy of the soul. It simply means Happy.**

Matt 5:1-16 -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.

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 by men.

14 "You are the **LIGHT OF THE WORLD.** A city on a hill cannot be hidden. 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. 16 **In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.**

1. **Poor** -ptochos (pto-khos'); from ptosso (to crouch; and the alternate of a beggar (as cringing), i.e. pauper (strictly denoting absolute or public mendicancy, although also used in a qualified or relative sense; whereas properly means only straitened circumstances in private), literally (often as noun) or figuratively (distressed):

- Convenient in Spirit – Only seek God when you think you need him
- Entitled in Spirit – Expect a certain type of service from God
- Poor in Spirit – Needs God... period.

**To truly be poor in Spirit we must make "self-purpose" a negative** - Phil 3:7-11 - 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. 10 I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.

**The lowly spirit accepts low positions** -Prov 16:19 Better to be lowly in spirit and among the oppressed than to share plunder with the proud.

**God stays close to the lowly spirit and distant if you are not** - Ps 138:6 Though the Lord is on high, he looks upon the lowly, but the proud he knows from afar.

**What God chooses doesn't fit what the world chooses** - 1 Cor 1:28-31 - 28 He chose the **LOWLY THINGS** of this world and the despised things — and the things that are not — to nullify the things that are, 29 so that no one may boast before him. 30 It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God — that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. 31 Therefore, as it is written: "**LET HIM WHO BOASTS BOAST IN THE LORD.**"

**Lowly is how we need to be to enter the kingdom of Heaven** - Mark 10:15-16 - 15 I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." 16 And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.

2. **Mourn** - pentheo (pen-theh'-o) to grieve (the feeling or the act): Lament, be sorrowful

**The world is headed for destruction we must be in the right frame of mind** - Eccl 7:2-4 - 2 It is better to go to a house of mourning than to go to a house of feasting, for death is the destiny of every man; the living should take this to heart. 3 Sorrow is better than laughter, because a sad face is good for the heart. 4 The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning, but the heart of fools is in the house of **pleasure**.

**Mourning truly opens our eyes to what we are and how we need to approach God** - James 4:8-10- 8 Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. 9 Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. 10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

**Grieve** - talaiporeo (tal-ah-ee-po-reh'-o); to be wretched, i.e. realize one's own misery: (be afflicted).

**Mourn** – see above

**Wail** - klaio (krah'-yo); to sob, i.e. wail aloud ( bemoan, weep).

3. **Meek** - praus (prah-ooce'); mild, i.e. (by implication) humble: forbearing; yielding; unassuming; pacific, calm, soft. Gentleness

**There is reward for the meek** - Ps 37:11 - 11 But the meek **WILL** inherit the land and enjoy great peace.

**Meek is part of how God expects us to live –**

Eph 4:1-2 - As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. 2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

Col 3:12-14 - 12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, **CLOTHE YOURSELVES WITH** compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

**Meekness is something we need to pursue it doesn't just happen** –1 Tim 6:11 But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.

**Meekness must be in our ministry –**

2 Tim 2:23-26 - 23 Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. 24 And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. 25 Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, 26 and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.

1 Peter 3:15-16 - 15 But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, 16 keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

4. righteousness

a. **Hunger** - peinao (pi-nah'-o); to famish (absol. or comparatively); figuratively, to crave:

b. **dipsao** (dip-sah'-o); to thirst for (literally or figuratively):

**We must crave him** -Ps 34:9-10 - 9 Fear the Lord, you his saints, for those who fear him lack nothing. 10 The lions may grow weak and hungry, but those who **SEEK THE LORD** lack no good thing.

**In order to grow we must control what we crave** -1 Peter 2:1-3 - Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. 2 Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, 3 now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

5. **merciful**- eleemon (el-eh-ay'-mone); compassionate

**Only those that show mercy are blessed** - Prov 14:21 He that despiset his neighbour sinneth: but he that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he. KJV

**How we treat others is how we are treated –**

Prov 11:17 The merciful man does good for his own soul, But he who is cruel troubles his own flesh. NKJV

James 2:12-13 - 12 Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, 13 because judgment without mercy WILL BE SHOWN to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment!

Col 3:12-14 - 12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

**The way we treat others is how we treat God** -Prov 14:31 He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.

**Our ministry needs to reflect what Christ is to us –**

Eph 4:29-32 - 29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. 32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

1 Peter 3:8-9 - 8 Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble. 9 Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

**Our mercy is also shown with what we have and what we do it**-1 John 3:17-20-17 If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, **how can the love of God be in him?** 18 Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. 19 This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence 20 whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

**Our mercy is used to save others** -Jude 22-23-22 Be merciful to those who doubt; 23 snatch others from the fire and save them; to others show mercy, mixed with fear-hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh.

**In a nutshell we show MERCY because we all have been shown MERCY** - Matt 18:32-35 - 32 "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. 33 **SHOULDN'T YOU HAVE HAD MERCY ON YOUR FELLOW SERVANT JUST AS I HAD ON YOU?'** 34 In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. 35 "**THIS IS HOW MY HEAVENLY FATHER WILL TREAT EACH OF YOU UNLESS YOU FORGIVE YOUR BROTHER FROM YOUR HEART.**"

6. **Pure** - katharos (kath-ar-os'); clean (literally or figuratively):

**We need to ask God for a clean heart** -Ps 51:10 Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

**The opposite of pure is wicked and the Lord detests their thoughts** -Prov 15:26 The Lord detests the thoughts of the wicked, but those of the pure are pleasing to him.

**To stay pure we must live by the Word** -Ps 119:9 How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word.

7. **Peacemakers** - eirenopoios (i-ray-nop-oy-os'); pacificator, i.e. (subjectively) peaceable:  
**We need to find out what true peace is and go after it** -Ps 34:14 Turn from evil and do good;seek peace and pursue it.  
**We have to sow peace to reap righteousness** - James 3:18 Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.  
**How we deal with everything must be the most peaceful route** – Rom 14:19 Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.

8. **Persecuted** - dioko (dee-o'-ko); a prolonged (and causative); to pursue (literally or figuratively); by implication, to persecute:

**Prepare and expect persecution if your living as a Christian –**

2 Tim 3:12-13 - 12 In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, 13 while evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

John 15:20-21 - 20 Remember the words I spoke to you: 'No servant is greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also. 21 They will treat you this way because of my name, for they do not know the One who sent me.