

# The Heart of the Beatitudes

Matthew 5:1-12

# Introduction

- This sermon captivates the heart of what Israel should have understood about her law. IT is not something new but something they should have already known. God tells Solomon, if you Seek the Lord, you will find Him... (1 Chron. 28:9).
- Jesus here becomes the antitype of Moses to expound or make clear the Law (Deut. 1:5). Jesus went up on the mountain...like Moses but a different scene.
- Matthew is not only a strictly Jewish book but it is also a transitional book. Judaism → Christianity
- These timeless truths of the Sermon on the Mount are very much for the Christian era as well.

# The Epitome of Blessed

- This word is given before every attitude. It is pronounced “bless-ed”, not blest.” It is describing a mind-set or a heart condition that comes from each of these attitudes one has.
- One grows in this, state, as they are looking to heaven and growing in each attitude presented (Acts 20:25; Rev 14:13).
- God has always wanted our entire mind and heart (1 Chronicles 28:9). God tells Solomon, if you Seek the Lord, you will find Him...

# The Epitome of a Paradox

- 1 Corinthians 1:18-31
- Poor in Spirit- Inheritance of Kingdom of Heaven (Isaiah 57:15; Psalm 57:17) We are beggars.
- Mourn- comfort (Eccl. 7:2-4; Ezekiel 9:4) Godly sorrow (2 Corinthians 7:8-13; James 4:7-10).
- Meek- inherit the earth (Jewish thinking, land promise symbolized rest. Heb. 4, Heb. 11) (Psalm 37:9, 11, 29) (Essenes, Sadducees and Herodias, Pharisee's and Zealot's all got it wrong).

# The Epitome of a Paradox (Cont.)

- Hunger and thirst for righteousness (Justice)- satisfied (filled) Hunger and thirst to the point of death. (Psalm 107:5-9; Psalm 42:1; John 4; Micah 6:8)
- Merciful - receive mercy. Proverbs 14:21.. We act upon our feelings.
- Pure in Heart- shall see God. Inward purity (Mishnah has 200 pages of outward purity. Psalm 24:3, 5).
- Peacemakers- shall be called the sons of God (1 John 3:9)
- Suffer- reward (John 15:21; James 1:2-3)

# The Epitome of the Christians Life

- Salt of the Earth- we are earth's (mankind's) life (spiritual) preserver. We preserve the word, we preserve godliness,
- If we do not do what Christ has asked us to do, then we cannot be salt and we become useless. (Luke 14:25-35).
- If we are not the light of the world. Not only are we to preserve life, but we are to lead people to life, through out actions that ultimately point to God.

# Application

- As Christians we need to be working on our “bless-ed” lifestyle so that we may receive the benefits of that “bless-ed” lifestyle
- To the world our lifestyle may look foolish and somewhat “crazy” but only for those who are perishing.
- If people do not see our light, then have we hidden our light under a basket? Or are we even members of the kingdom of light?