



## Sunday January 17, 2016 Blessed Attitudes

Nine Blessed Attitudes

### Matthew 5:1-12 (Amplified Bible)

1 When Jesus saw the crowds, He went up on the mountain; and when He was seated, His [a]disciples came to Him. 2 Then He began to teach them, saying,

3 “Blessed [spiritually prosperous, happy, to be admired] are **the poor in spirit** [those devoid of spiritual arrogance, those who regard themselves as insignificant], for theirs is the kingdom of heaven [both now and forever].

4 “Blessed [forgiven, refreshed by God’s grace] are **those who mourn** [over their sins and repent], for they will be comforted [when the burden of sin is lifted].

5 “Blessed [inwardly peaceful, spiritually secure, worthy of respect] are **the gentle** [the kind-hearted, the sweet-spirited, the self-controlled], for they will inherit the earth.

6 “Blessed [joyful, nourished by God’s goodness] are **those who hunger and thirst for righteousness** [those who actively seek right standing with God], for they will be [completely] satisfied.

7 “Blessed [content, sheltered by God’s promises] are **the merciful**, for they will receive mercy.

8 “Blessed [anticipating God’s presence, spiritually mature] are **the pure in heart** [those with integrity, moral courage, and godly character], for they will see God.

9 “Blessed [spiritually calm with life-joy in God’s favor] are **the makers and maintainers of peace**, for they will [express His character and] be called the sons of God.

10 “Blessed [comforted by inner peace and God’s love] are **those who are persecuted for doing that which is morally right**, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven [both now and forever].

11 “Blessed [morally courageous and spiritually alive with life-joy in God’s goodness] are you **when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil things against you because of [your association with] Me**.

12 Be glad and exceedingly joyful, for your reward in heaven is great [absolutely inexhaustible]; for in this same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

### ***Blessed before God and blessed by God***

God looks at the heart (1 Samuel 16:7). He is drawn towards a heart that has certain attitudes. The Lord Jesus gives us nine heart conditions (attitudes) that before God are favorable and which God blesses. Some of these heart attitudes may go against our natural grain - the way the world thinks - but before God is of great value.



We are called to walk with these heart attitudes all the time, in every situation.

Do you want to walk in favor before God, in a place where God can release blessing - walk with these heart attitudes. We call them "blessed attitudes".

### **#1, Poor in spirit**

3 "Blessed [spiritually prosperous, happy, to be admired] are **the poor in spirit** [those devoid of spiritual arrogance, those who regard themselves as insignificant], for theirs is the kingdom of heaven [both now and forever].

To see yourself as "poor", someone in "poverty" in the spirit.

We know who we are in Christ - we have everything in the spiritual realm.

Yet, the attitude of our hearts is one of being in a state of need, of being laid low, one that is void of any pride, arrogance, simplicity and self-sufficiency.

There are several keys that the Lord Jesus has revealed to experiencing the Kingdom of heaven. One of them is learning to be poor in spirit. Those who walk with this heart attitude are the ones who are going to experience the Kingdom and all that it has.

#### **Matthew 18:3-4**

3 and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

4 Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 18:3-4 sheds more light here if we see the parallel of being "poor in spirit" to being "childlike". The simplicity, the innocence, the dependence, the weakness seen in childlikeness - is what we are to maintain as our heart attitude, in order to enter and experience the Kingdom of heaven.

### **#2, A broken spirit**

4 "Blessed [forgiven, refreshed by God's grace] are **those who mourn** [over their sins and repent], for they will be comforted [when the burden of sin is lifted].

A heart that is easily moved with compassion, a heart that grieves over those who suffer, a heart that is grieved over sin and injustice, a heart that is grieved with what grieves the heart of God.

When we mourn, when we feel broken and grieved over what grieves the heart of God, the Spirit of Grace comes upon us. He empowers us. Most often, we are empowered to make a difference in what really breaks our heart, simply because, it is in these moments and in these areas that we receive God's grace.



Psalm 34:18

The LORD is near to those who have a broken heart, And saves such as have a contrite spirit.

### **#3, A gentle spirit**

5 "Blessed [inwardly peaceful, spiritually secure, worthy of respect] are **the gentle** [the kind-hearted, the sweet-spirited, the self-controlled], for they will inherit the earth.

Similarly God is drawn to those who walk in meekness, gentleness, kindness and those who walk with self-control.

The promise here is quite amazing: "...they will inherit the earth".

This is quite different from what the world thinks. In the world, we think we have to be aggressive, dominating, pushy, and somehow force our way to grab anything and everything we can.

God sees things differently:

Psalm 37:10-11

10 For yet a little while and the wicked shall be no more; Indeed, you will look carefully for his place, But it shall be no more.

11 But the meek shall inherit the earth, And shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

When we walk with humility, God draws near to us and empowers us with His grace. He exalts us in due time.

1 Peter 5:5-6

5 Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "GOD RESISTS THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE."

6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

Although the following verse is a specific exhortation to women, remember that the condition of the heart is gender-neutral, and hence we can all apply this:

1 Peter 3:4

rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God.

A gentle and quiet spirit is something God Himself treasures!

### **#4, A hungry spirit**

6 "Blessed [joyful, nourished by God's goodness] are **those who hunger and thirst for righteousness** [those who actively seek right standing with God], for they will be [completely] satisfied.

God responds to the hunger, the cry, the pull of your spirit for things that are right and He satisfies us with what we are longing for.



The key to having more of the things of God is to first of all hunger and thirst for those things - to have a pull in your spirit, a longing and a craving for those things.

Only when there is hunger and thirst for more, with a sense of desperation - "if I don't get it, I may die", " my life depends on this", that God responds and satisfies.

The casual wish, or nice to have approach, does not move God.

God is looking for a holy desperation in us for the things He has. He responds to that cry of desperation.

This cry of desperation, this hunger and thirst, propels us into action. We pray more than the norm, we seek Him more than what is easy. We are willing to do what is uncomfortable, in order to receive what we so desperately desire.

#### ***#5, A merciful spirit***

7 "Blessed [content, sheltered by God's promises] are **the merciful**, for they will receive mercy.

Having a heart that is ready to forgive, to extend mercy, to release people from their indebtedness, from wrongdoing - is another heart attitude that finds favor in God's eyes.

When we extend mercy, it positions us to receive mercy.

Jesus taught us to forgive others, even as we have received forgiveness from God.

#### ***#6, A pure spirit***

8 "Blessed [anticipating God's presence, spiritually mature] are **the pure in heart** [those with integrity, moral courage, and godly character], for they will see God.

Purity of heart - a heart that is clean, godly, without evil intent, that desires truth.

Jesus spoke of Nathaneal and called him a man "**..in whom is no deceit!**" (John 1:47). A man who had no evil, nothing false in him.

Psalm 51:6 tells us "**..You desire truth in the inward parts,..**"

One of the important things to do, is to daily go before God and ask Him to check your heart, check your motives, your attitudes, and see if your heart is clean - free from anything that is evil. A heart free from anger, hatred, pride, jealousy, lust, evil intent, cunning, deceit, etc.



The blessing is ".....they will see God".

Our revelation of God is determined by the condition of our heart.  
If our heart is clean, we will have a clearer understanding of who He is.  
Otherwise our understanding of God gets tainted by the condition of our heart.

### ***#7, A peaceful spirit***

9 "Blessed [spiritually calm with life-joy in God's favor] are **the makers and maintainers of peace**, for they will [express His character and] be called the sons of God.

When we walk with a peaceful spirit, we will work towards peace. We are quick to resolve conflicts, let go of hostility and other things that breakdown relationship.

Those who walk with a peaceful spirit are those who walk truly as "sons of God" - as those who are the offspring of God, as those who represent God on earth.

Walking in peace is a key to manifesting our sonship, that we are indeed partakes of divine nature.

Walking in peace is a key to walking in dominion.

**Romans 16:20** And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly.

### ***#8, A strong spirit***

10 "Blessed [comforted by inner peace and God's love] are **those who are persecuted for doing that which is morally right**, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven [both now and forever].

Here then is another key to experiencing the Kingdom - having a strong, enduring spirit, that holds on to what is right and does not give up even when persecuted.

We walk with strength of conviction, and with endurance. We refuse to give up, give in and recant on our faith and conviction, even when there is a price to pay, pain to endure, sacrifice to make and our own life at stake.

### ***#9, A faithful spirit***

11 "Blessed [morally courageous and spiritually alive with life-joy in God's goodness] are you **when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil things against you because of [your association with] Me**.

12 Be glad and exceedingly joyful, **for your reward in heaven is great [absolutely inexhaustible];** for in this same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.



In addition to being strong, Jesus calls us to be faithful to Him and His name. When we stand faithful to His name, willing to suffer all kinds of evil done to us because we bear His name, He says, that such a faithful spirit is blessed in His eyes.

### **Application**

Can we examine our heart condition, our heart attitudes?

The Lord Jesus has given to us very clearly nine heart attitudes, He calls blessed, acceptable and favorable in His sight.

Let us welcome the work of His Holy Spirit to change our hearts and empower us to walk in these heart attitudes, these nine blessed attitudes.



**USEFUL RESOURCES**



Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

**YOUTUBE:** <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

**WEBSITE:** <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

**CHURCH:** <https://apcwo.org>

**FREE SERMONS:** <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

**FREE BOOKS:** <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

**DAILY DEVOTIONALS:** <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

**JESUS CHRIST:** <https://examiningjesus.com>

**BIBLE COLLEGE:** <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

**E-LEARNING:** <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

**WEEKEND SCHOOLS:** <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

**COUNSELING:** <https://chrysalislife.org>

**MUSIC:** <https://apcmusic.org>

**MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP:** <https://pamfi.org>

**CHURCH APP:** <https://apcwo.org/app>

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