

“True Kingdom Living”

Dr. Geoffrey Plummer
Calvary Baptist Church

December 26, 2021

Scripture

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, He went up on the mountain; and after He sat down, His disciples came to Him. He opened His mouth and began to teach them, saying,

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

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."

"Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth."

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied."

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

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

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."

"Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

"Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way, they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7)

A large crowd is following Him, so He ascends the Mountain

Matthew 4:23-25

“Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and **healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness among the people**. The news about Him spread throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all who were ill, those suffering with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, paralytics; and He healed them. **Large crowds followed Him** from Galilee and the Decapolis and Jerusalem and Judea and from beyond the Jordan.”

Speaking Opportunities **Follow** Committed Service!

The Great Rabbi sits down to teach

Significance of the Sermon on the Mount

- Jesus Came to Explain God to Us (**John 1:18**)
- Jesus is ushering in the New Covenant
- Kingdom Thinking is Beginning
- Comparing the Old Covenant to the New Covenant
 - “You’ve heard it said, but I say to you...”

The Beatitudes

Means “**Supreme Blessedness**” – Title given to some in the Orthodox Church.

Someone once quipped, “This should **BE** your **ATTITUDE**”

Which of these statements describe you?

Usually someone will mention one or two that they believe describes themselves at present.

What does Blessed mean?

Makarios -> “to be exceedingly, continually happy”, describing the believer’s position of having **God’s favor** rest on them, literally means “**long lasting, extended grace**”

Let’s Hit these 1 by 1 quickly

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

Poor in Spirit

Who are they?

Those who believe themselves to be reliant on God.

They Need Him.

It is the **opposite** of self-sufficient.

They are deeply humble, recognizing that apart from God’s grace, they are bankrupt of hope

What do they get?

They make it into the **Kingdom** – It was created for them -> **Heaven Comes to Earth**

They are part of the **Chosen**, the **Elect**, the **Beloved** of God

It is their **Home**

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.”

The Mourners

Who are they?

Those who understand the sin in their life, and mourn their sinful condition

Like Paul in **Romans 7:18-19**

“For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing is present in me, but the doing of the good is not. For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want.”

This is a sign of spiritual maturity for me

What do they get?

They are **Comforted**

They receive continual reassurance and forgiveness.

Like Paul again in **Romans 7:24-25** and **Romans 8:1-2**

“Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death? **Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!**”

“Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.”

"Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth."

The Gentle (or the Meek)

Who are they?

They are not weak, far from it.

Those who exhibit **self-control** – this is the opposite of “out of control”.

They have a steely cool demeanor under pressure, assured in their Lord’s care for them

Matthew 11:29

“Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for **I am gentle and lowly in heart**, and you will find rest for your souls.”

What do they get?

They **inherit the Earth**

They will **live in the Millennial Kingdom** when Christ comes to bring His rule to the Earth

They will reign with Him

Romans 8:15-17

“For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but **you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out**, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, and **if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ**, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.”

2 Timothy 2:12 -> “If we endure, **we will also reign with Him**”

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied."

Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness

Who are they?

Those who continually work with the Holy Spirit in sanctification
They do not grieve the Spirit; they cooperate in the renovation
They are not materialistic; they realize that Heaven is their Home!
They are not self-righteous, but seeking God's righteousness

Matthew 6:31-33

"Do not worry then, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear for clothing?' "For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. "But **seek first His kingdom and His righteousness**, and all these things will be added to you."

What do they get?

A Righteous Life -> They are **satisfied** being “**Right**” with God

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

The Merciful

Who are they?

Those who grant mercy to others and forgive trespasses against them -> **The Lord's Prayer**

Matthew 18:23-35 “**The Unrighteous/Unmerciful Slave**”

King was settling accounts and gave grace to a slave that owed him 10K talents
The slave went and found another slave who owed him 100 denarii
The King freed the 1st slave, but the unmerciful slave threw his debtor slave into prison

What do they get?

Mercy, themselves, in return
They receive forgiveness

"You are never more like God, then when you forgive another person"

James 2:13 "For judgment will be merciless to one who has shown no mercy!"

Ephesians 4:32 "be kind and merciful, and forgive others, just as God forgave you."

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

The Pure in Heart

Who are they?

Those who have been cleansed by the blood of Jesus
They are unstained by the world because they purposely separate from it
They are spiritually and ceremoniously clean

John 13:10-11 – Jesus, after washing the feet of the disciples

"Jesus said to him, "He who has bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and **you are clean, but not all of you.**" For He knew the one who was betraying Him; for this reason He said, "Not all of you are clean."

What do they get?

They **get to see God**

1 John 3:2

"See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and such we are. For this reason, the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. **We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.** And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure."

1 Corinthians 13:12

"For now, we see in a mirror dimly, **but then face to face**; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I also have been fully known."

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."

The Peacemakers

Who are they?

Those who seek true peace for those they encounter
Those reconciling others to God, making peace between Man and God -> **Vertical Peace**
Those led by the Spirit to reach out to others

2 Corinthians 5:20

“Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; **we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.**”

What do they get?

They will be called **Sons of God**

Matthew 5:44

“But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you **so that you may be sons of your Father in Heaven**; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.”

Romans 8:14-15

“For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a **spirit of adoption as sons** by which we cry out, “Abba! Father!””

“Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” “Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way, they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The Persecuted for Righteousness Sake

Who are they?

Those who share the sufferings of Christ
Not as common in the U.S.A. as opposed to foreign countries
The hunted down and killed, the imprisoned, the chained up
Those that are lied about, insulted, and murdered by speech

1 Peter 4:12-14

“Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; but **to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing**, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation. **If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed**, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.”

What do they get?

They get the Kingdom of Heaven
They get rewards in Heaven

Revelation 6:9-11

“When the Lamb broke the fifth seal, **I saw underneath the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained**; and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" **And there was given to each of them a white robe**; and they were told that they should rest for a little while longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brethren who were to be killed even as they had been, would be completed also.”

2 Timothy 3:10-12

“Now you followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, perseverance, persecutions, and sufferings, such as happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium [and] at Lystra; what persecutions I endured, and out of them all the Lord rescued me! Indeed, **all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.**”

Do you desire to live godly in Christ?

It may be subtle in the U.S., but a time is coming when it will not be subtle.

Well, how did you do?

This is the Christian Life: Hopefully coming to physical body near you...!

If you are in Christ, you should be:

- Poor in Spirit – Relying solely on God
- Mourning your Sin
- Gentle under control
- Hungering for righteous living
- Merciful and forgiving of others
- Have a spiritually clean heart and separated from the world
- A peacemaker, attempting to bring others into a relationship with Jesus
- Willing to be persecuted for Jesus’s Name

Prayer

Order of Service

Calvary Baptist Church, Cambridge

December 26th, 2021 – 9:30 AM

Dr. Geoffrey Plummer Preaching

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Geoffrey Plummer

Worship in Music

Congregation

- Majesty
- Power in the Blood

Offertory Prayer

Deacon Don Fouts

Reading of God's Word and Prayer

Deacon Colby Carpenter

Sermon (Matthew 5:1-12)

Pastor Geoffrey Plummer

Celebration Music

Congregation

- Resurrection Power

Benediction

Pastor Geoffrey Plummer

Announcements for Sunday December 26th, 2021

Communications Update

- The new website is LIVE: www.cbccne.org
- YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/channel/UCra63eoUMtj13N2Q_uamemA
- Online Giving is Available: Go to the website, there is a Give button at the top right
- "Ask the Pastor" is LIVE Go to the website, "Ask the Pastor" in the top menu
 - Use for any biblical question you might have
 - Or Hymn requests for a Sunday service!
- Sign-up for Communication Updates if you haven't already

Upcoming Events

- New Year's Eve Party **Friday, December 31st from 5-8PM**
 - Board Games & Card Games
 - Bring Finger Foods and Snacks
- The More Beautiful Half Arrives **Sunday, January 2nd at 9:30am**
- Communion **Sunday, January 2nd at 10:45am**
- Pastoral Installation Service **Sunday, January 9th at 9:30am**
- Potluck Luncheon **Sunday, January 9th at 11:30am**

Lyrics to: Majesty (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pTcetHTcQyA>)

Majesty
Worship His majesty
Unto Jesus
Be all glory, honor and praise

Majesty
Kingdom authority
Flow from His throne
Unto His own
His anthem raise

So exalt, lift up on high
The name of Jesus
Magnify, come glorify
Christ Jesus the King

Majesty
Worship His majesty
Jesus who died, now glorified
King of all kings

So exalt, lift up on high
The name of Jesus
Magnify, come glorify
Christ Jesus the King

Majesty
Worship His majesty
Jesus who died, now glorified
King of all kings

Jesus who died, now glorified
King of all kings

Lyrics to: Power in the Blood (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BjIYL7GBHZQ>)

Would you be free from the burden of sin
There's power in the blood, power in the blood
Would you o'er evil a victory win
There's wonderful power in the blood

There is power, power, wonder working power in the blood of the lamb
There is power, power, wonder working power in the precious blood of lamb

Would you be free from your passion and pride
There's power in the blood, power in the blood
Come for a cleansing to Calvary's tide
There's wonderful power in the blood

Would you do service for Jesus your king
There's power in the blood power in the blood
Would you lift David his praises to sing
There's wonderful power in the blood

There is power, power, wonder working power in the blood of the lamb
There is power, power, wonder working power in the precious blood of lamb

There is power, power, wonder working power in the blood of the lamb
There is power, power, wonder working power in the precious blood of lamb

There is power, power, wonder working power in the precious blood of lamb

Lyrics to: Resurrection Power (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AxH8Q8ue65o>)

You called me from the grave by name
You called me out of all my shame
I see the old has passed away
The new has come

Now I have resurrection power living on the inside
Jesus, You have given us freedom
No longer bound by sin and darkness
Living in the light of Your goodness
You have given us freedom

I'm dressed in Your royalty
Your Holy Spirit lives in me
And I see my past has been redeemed
The new has come

Now I have resurrection power living on the inside
Jesus, You have given us freedom
I'm no longer bound by sin and darkness
Living in the light of Your goodness
You have given us freedom

Freedom, You have given us freedom
You have given us freedom, my chains are gone

Freedom, You have given us freedom
You have given us freedom, hallelujah

Freedom, You have given us freedom
You have given us freedom, my chains are gone

Freedom, You have given us freedom
You have given us freedom, hallelujah

Now I have resurrection power living on the inside
Now, I'm no longer bound by sin and darkness
Living in the light of Your goodness
You have given us freedom!

Now I have resurrection power living on the inside
Jesus, You have given us freedom
Now, I'm no longer bound by sin and darkness
Living in the light of Your goodness
You have given us freedom

I have resurrection power living on the inside
Living on the inside
No longer bound by sin and darkness
You have given us freedom
You have given us freedom

Sermon Notes

The Characteristic	Who They Are	What They Get
The Poor in Spirit		
The Mourners		
The Gentle or Meek		
The Hungry and Thirsty		
The Merciful		
The Pure in Heart		
The Peacemakers		
The Persecuted		