

The Beatitudes

The second Beatitude

Int.

1. Aim: To discuss the second beatitude and what it means to us.
2. Matthew 5:1-12 -- 8 beatitudes
 - a. Blessed = Happy
 - b. Two divisions of these 8 beatitudes
 - i. First four have to do with our relationship with God and how to restore it.
 - (1) We are separated from God by Sin
 - (2) These first 4 beatitudes teach us how we can remove sin and be in the proper relationship with God.
 - ii. The second four have to do with our relationship with our fellow man.
 - (1) After we make peace with God then we can work on being at peace with one another.
 - (2) The last 4 beatitudes instruct us about how to be at peace with one another.
3. The poor in spirit - the first beatitude
 - a. Poor = humble opinion of himself spiritually
 - b. He is willing to follow advice of the Lord - he is teachable
 - c. Remove pride and arrogance
 - d. This is the door to the kingdom -- those who are humble will obey the truth.
4. This second beatitude says: "blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted."
Mt. 5:4
5. In this lesson we will notice What it means to mourn and how we are comforted

Discussion

I. Blessed are They that mourn "Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted." Mt.5:4

A. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO MOURN ?

1. This is a paradox [seems to contradict itself - is opposed to common sense - yet it is true]
2. Jesus used other statements that were paradoxes to teach:
 - a. Mt.10:39 "He that findeth his life shall lose it."
 - b. Mt. 23:11 "He that would be greatest among you shall be your servant."
3. Does Jesus want people to be sad? No !
 - a. In John 16:33 Jesus tells us: "Be of good cheer"
 - b. Paul writes in Phil. 4:4 "Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!"
 - c. The wise man Solomon said: "A merry heart does good, like medicine, But a broken spirit dries the bones." Prov. 17:22
 - d. So it is not the case that Jesus wants us to be sad.
 - e. But He says in this beatitude, "Blessed are they that mourn."
4. How can mourners -- people who are sad -- be happy?
 - a. Men have always felt that the prosperous and cheerful people are the blessed
 - b. Christ pronounces a blessing on those who mourn

5. One article called this beatitude "the happy sorrow"
 - a. The world tries to avoid mourning, sorrow and pain
 - b. The philosophy of most of the world is to get all the pleasure you can get out of life, seek fun and entertainment -- this is what they think brings real happiness.

B. To Mourn does not mean:

1. To mourn because you are a pessimist, a chronic complainer
2. To mourn because a man has ruled God out of his life
3. To mourn because of the consequences of sin - the jail has mourners - but this is not what Jesus is talking about.
4. It does not mean to mourn from the trials, disappointments, bereavements and heartaches of this life. All men regardless of their character suffer such things
5. To mourn because of persecution - v. 10-12 cover this
6. This mourning is not for unpleasant earthly circumstances

C. Mourn here has a spiritual meaning - just as "poor" in v.3 did not mean poor in purse but poor in heart or humble

1. Greek word means - "to mourn, to mourn passionately for, to lament, grieve, to weep audibly, to shed tears, to cry as a child."
2. This is the strongest word for mourning in the Greek New Testament
 - a. It was used for mourning of the dead
 - b. Sometimes the word is translated "wailing"
3. Paul used this same word in 2 Cor. 12:21 where he said that he "bewailed" the sins of the people.

4. The person who is going to be blessed for his mourning is the one who mourns for his sin or has sorrow for his sin: [spiritual mourning]

a. We realize our sin and it causes us to be saddened

(1) David - Psalms 51 v. 1-4

(2) Peter denied the Lord - Luke 22:54-62

(3) Isaiah - Isa. 6:5 "Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts."

b. II Corinthians 7:9-10 Godly sorrow brings about repentance

(1) Repentance is not just sorrow or changing

(2) It is a change of mind because of God's word that causes us to turn away from sin - we cannot repent without sorrow.

(3) Repentance is a change of heart bringing about a change of life

(4) It is an inside change that shows on the outside with our life.

c. This mourning comes from a tender conscience - from a broken heart

d. This kind of weeping can pierce the heart

5. This is in the present tense

a. This indicates continual mourning and sorrow

b. It does not say "blessed are those that have mourned" but it uses the word "mourn" which means a continual sorrow

D. It is good to be able to feel pain

1. Dead limbs feel no pain

2. As long as there is sensitivity to pain, there is hope.

3. A conscience that is seared (1 Tim. 4:2) and is past feeling (Eph. 4:19) belongs to a lost person who has no hope.

- a. "having their conscience seared with a hot iron;" 1 Tim. 4:2
 - b. "Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness." Eph. 4:19
4. Only those who can mourn for their sins will be able to find real comfort.

II. HOW ARE WE COMFORTED ?

A. Meaning

1. Comfort implies strengthening as well as consolation
2. To call near to be consoled - same word in 2 Cor. 1:4 "who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."

B. Mourning for sin turns to joy -- Fulfilled in three ways

1. When We obey the Gospel
 - a. When we obey the gospel we have forgiveness
 - b. Plan of salvation -- H.B.R.C.B - Mk. 16:16
 - c. The Eunuch went on his way rejoicing - Acts 8:39 - He was comforted
2. Continual comfort as we walk in the light - 1 Jn. 1:9 - cleansed of our sins "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."
3. At the end of life
 - a. As a Christian we have that promise of a home with God
 - b. There will be no more sin or heartaches or sorrows from the trials of life
 - c. Abraham said about Lazarus "Now he is comforted" Lk. 16:25

4. There is great comfort for those who mourn in Christ -- we have His approval and forgiveness -- we have hope which is the anchor of the soul - Heb. 6:19

C. Mt. 11:28 is a parallel

1. "come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."
2. Mourning = same as "heavy laden"
3. Comfort = same as "rest"

D. Pain can bring healing

1. Medicine may taste bad but it can cure our ills, shot or surgery = cure
2. Pain of surgery may save our life
3. Same true spiritually -- repentance or mourning for sins may be painful but it brings that comfort of forgiveness
4. This is the "peace of God that passeth all understanding" (Phi. 4:7) which comes only to God's children.

E. Mourning for our sin prepares the heart to receive the balm of Gilead [Jer. 8:22]

F. The mourner is blessed because:

1. He sees his need for salvation - every sinner needs salvation but most do not recognize their need
2. He is the kind of person God can save - He is repentant of his sin - all others resist and are rejected by God because of their rebellious and unrepentant heart.

CONCLUSION

1. In summary the first two beatitudes say:

2. **BLESSED ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT**

a. **Specific**

(1) Poor means to be without - spiritually it means we are without pride, arrogance and haughtiness

(2) We must lay down human wisdom and accept guidance of Divine Revelation

b. **Results**

(1) Kingdom of Heaven

(2) The poor in spirit will receive God's greatest blessing!

c. **Principle**

(1) Humility is the principle of this beatitude

(2) We must humble our self - no one else can do it for us

(3) A human man is teachable - moldable

d. **Application**

(1) This attitude of humility opens the way for faith in God

(2) Faith is trusting in God -- not self.

(3) The poor in spirit will trust God.

3. The Second beatitude says: **BLESSED ARE THEY THAT MOURN**

a. **Specific**

i. This is the person who mourns for his sin and is filled with sorrow

ii. This is Godly sorrow -- 2 Cor. 7:9-10

iii. It is a change of mind because of God's message in the Bible, and it brings a change of life.

b. Result

- i. The people who can mourn for their sins will be comforted by forgiveness
- ii. Consolation is available

c. Principle

- i. Godly sorrow is the principle that causes mourning
- ii. A person who believes in God realizes that sin is against God and hurts Him
- iii. The Jews on Pentecost were pricked in their hearts when they realized they had killed the Son of God - Acts 2:37

d. Application

- i. Repentance
- ii. It is more than reform or change
- iii. Repentance is a change of life brought about because of a change of mind which was caused by Godly sorrow -- 2 Cor. 7:10

4. Sometimes people refuse the possibility of forgiveness:

- a. "God can't forgive me; I've been too bad too many times."
- b. This kind of attitude is not real Godly sorrow - or mourning for our sins
- c. It is a lack of faith in the grace of God.
- d. Never allow guilt to cause you to refuse the comfort of God's forgiveness
- e. Matthew 11:28-30

5. Blessed is the one who is sorry for his own sin and his own unworthiness.**6. Then God can begin the healing process. Are you mourning for your sin?**