

Beatitudes
What The Bible Teaches About Being Blessed

**BLESSED IS THE MAN WHO HUNGERS FOR
RIGHTEOUSNESS**

Text: Matthew 5:6

Introduction:

1. The biblically blessed are those who depend upon God.
2. They inherit the promise made to Abraham by submission to God.
3. Jesus begins the Sermon on the Mount by describing foundational attitudes that are necessary to follow Him.
4. The first “beatitude” is to be poor in spirit.
5. The second “beatitude” is to mourn.
6. The third “beatitude” is meekness.
7. The fourth “beatitude” is hunger for righteousness...

I. The Context

- A. The Sermon on the Mount
- B. The Beatitudes build upon one another.
 1. One who is poor in spirit will acknowledge that he is a sinner.
 2. He will also realize that he cannot save himself.
 3. Thus, he will also become one who mourns over his sin.
 4. This, in turn, will cause him to give control of his life to God.
 5. Upon making this commitment, he will then hunger for righteousness.

II. The Characteristic

- A. “Righteousness”
 1. Literally, “the state of him who is as he ought to be; the condition acceptable to God; integrity, rightness, correctness of thinking, feeling and acting.”
 2. Righteousness is justification...
 - a. Romans 4
 - b. Philippians 3:9
 - c. Hebrews 11:7
 3. Righteousness is found in the Gospel...
 - a. Romans 1:16-17; 3:21-26
 - b. Acts 24:25
 - c. 2 Timothy 3:16-17
 4. Righteousness is obtained by obedience...
 - a. 1 John 3:7-12
 - b. Matthew 5:20; Acts 10:35
 - c. Romans 6:12-19
- B. “Hunger and Thirst”
 1. Man feels and understands physical hunger and thirst.
 - a. Consider Esau (Genesis 25:29-34).

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- b. Consider the Israelites (Exodus 16:3).
 - c. Consider the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:17).
- 2. Yet, spiritual hunger and thirst are often felt but misunderstood.
 - a. Many try to fill this hunger with worldly pleasures...
 - b. Instead of going to the bread of life (John 6:35).
- 3. We must hunger and thirst for righteousness!
 - a. Psalm 42:1-2; 63:1-2
 - b. Amos 8:11-13
 - c. John 6:27
 - d. Matthew 6:33

III. The Christian

- A. The person who mourns over sin will become a Christian.
- B. He will understand his guilt and need for redemption.
- C. He will mourn over his sins and repent of them.
- D. Then, he will submit to the control of God to learn what to do to be saved.
- E. Upon learning this information, he will possess the strength of his convictions.
- F. Then, he will have an insatiable desire for the righteousness of God revealed in the Gospel of Christ.
- G. Thus, he will be filled.
 - 1. For he will seek and study the Word of God.
 - 2. He will continue to desire the sincere milk of the word (1 Pet. 2:2).
 - 3. He will live his life by doing that which God desires.

Conclusion: *Do you have hunger and thirst for righteousness?*