

**Beatitudes**  
**What The Bible Teaches About Being Blessed**

**BLESSED IS THE MAN WHO MAKES PEACE**

Text: Matthew 5:9

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.
8. The fifth "beatitude" is to be merciful.
9. The sixth "beatitude" is to be pure in heart.
10. The seventh "beatitude" is to be a peacemaker...

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.
  6. Salvation from sins will motivate one to be merciful toward others.
  7. Reflecting on the mercy of God motivates the Christian to remain pure in heart.
  8. Purity of heart (motives) moves one to seek peace.

II. The Characteristic

- A. "Peace"
  1. The word is found 429 times in 400 verses of the Bible.
  2. Hebrew – *shalom* – Literally, "completeness, soundness, welfare, safety; it embraces everything which makes for a person's highest good; a positive state as opposed to a negative one."
    - a. This word is the common Hebrew greeting.
    - b. It is found 236 times in the Old Testament.
    - c. It is translated: peace, peaceable, peaceably, well, welfare, prosperity, safe, health, good, favor, friends, rest.
  3. Greek – *eirene* – "a state of tranquility, harmony, security."
    - a. This word is found 93 times in the New Testament.
    - b. It is translated: peace, quietness, rest.

**Beatitudes**  
**What The Bible Teaches About Being Blessed**

4. Thus, the idea of peace is a calmness (tranquility) and a wholeness that comes from a foundation of security (safety). (Cf. Mark 4:39)
- B. "Peacemaker"
  1. One who strives to live in peace; maintains an environment of peace (cf. Mark 9:50; Romans 12:18; 2 Corinthians 13:11; 1 Thessalonians 5:13).
  2. This is not just a peaceable person, nor a peace-loving person.
  3. Rather, this is a person who actively seeks to create and maintain peace.
    - a. By possessing godly wisdom (James 3:16-18)
    - b. By practicing godly works (1 Peter 3:8-12)
    - c. By preaching godly words (Romans 10:15)
- C. Three avenues of peace...
  1. Peace with God
    - a. This is the only way to true peace (Matt. 10:34).
    - b. God is a God of peace (Romans 15:33; 16:20; 2 Corinthians 13:11; Philippians 4:9; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 13:20).
    - c. He sent Jesus to bring peace (Luke 2:14; John 14:27; 16:33).
    - d. Jesus purchased peace on the cross (Ephesians 2:14-17; Colossians 1:20).
    - e. Jesus preached the way of peace (Luke 1:79; Eph. 2:17).
    - f. Jesus produced a kingdom of peace (Romans 14:17).
    - g. Jesus provides peace through justification (Romans 5:1).
  2. Peace with self.
    - a. Being right with God brings peace to one's soul.
    - b. It is a peace that rules through security (Colossians 3:15).
    - c. It is a peace beyond comprehension (Philippians 4:7).
  3. Peace with man.
    - a. Thus, the Christian works to bring peace to others.
    - b. We are peacemakers when we teach others how to be right with God. (Cf. Acts 10:34-36; Romans 10:15; Eph. 6:15)
    - c. We are peacemakers when we keep peace among God's people (1 Corinthians 14:33; Eph. 4:3; 1 Thes. 5:13).

**III. The Christian**

- A. The blessing of being a peacemaker is to be called a child of God.
- B. If we want to be the Father's, we must act like Him (Matthew 5:43-45).
- C. To be a child of God is to be at peace with Him.
- D. To be a child of God is to be at peace within – for I have the security that my faith, trust, and my very soul are in the hands of a righteous and faithful Father.
- E. To be a child of God is to seek peace in His world with His wayward creation.

Conclusion: *Are you a peacemaker?*