

Beatitudes
What The Bible Teaches About Being Blessed

JESUS' BEATITUDES AND THE PRIORITIES OF LIFE

Text: Matthew 6:19-34

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. These attitudes are essential to salvation, to having a godly influence, and to obeying the Law of Christ.
5. They are also essential for submitting to having proper priorities in life.

I. Where Is Your Treasure? (6:19-21)

- A. A disciple with a proper attitude will keep priorities in perspective.
- B. The Christian must not allow earthly treasures to become his priority.
 1. To trust in wealth is to deny God (Job 31:24-28; Deuteronomy 8:10-14; Luke 18:24; 1 Timothy 6:8ff; 1 John 2:15-17).
 2. Riches cannot satisfy (Ecclesiastes 5:10-14).
 3. Riches cannot stay (Proverbs 23:5;).
 4. Riches cannot save (Psalm 49:6-9; Proverbs 11:4; Ezekiel 7:19; Zephaniah 1:18; James 5:1-3; Matthew 16:26; Luke 12:19-21; 16:22-23).
- C. Instead, his focus must be on that which endures forever – treasure in Heaven (Matthew 19:21; Luke 12:33; Hebrews 10:34; 11:26; James 2:5; 1 Peter 1:4; 5:4; Revelation 2:9).
- D. One's priorities determine one's actions!

II. What Is Your Focus? (6:22-23)

- A. A singleness of focus on righteousness brings light.
- B. A focus on evil (whether single or double) brings darkness.
 1. Obviously, one with a single focus on evil will be and do evil.
 2. But, one who tries to focus on both good and evil will also become evil.
- C. The Christian must strive to keep his focus always on that which is right (cf. Matthew 20:13-15; 23:16-28; Ephesians 4:18; 1 John 2:11).
- D. Consider the illustration of a man walking a tightrope: to make it safely across he must keep his eye on the goal.

III. Who Is Your Master? (6:24-34)

- A. It is impossible to serve two masters and be pleasing to both.
- B. Likewise, the Christian must not try to serve both God and the flesh.
- C. In fact, there is no need to serve the material realm at all, for God will provide the necessities of life.
- D. To serve God first (by putting His kingdom and righteousness first) is the priority of life.