

Beatitudes
What The Bible Teaches About Being Blessed

JESUS' BEATITUDES AND THE JUDGMENT OF GOD

Text: Matthew 7:1-29

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, to obeying the Law of Christ, and to maintaining proper priorities in life.
5. They are also essential to understanding and imitating the judgment of God.

I. Hypocritical Judgment Condemned (7:1-5)

- A. When reading this passage, it is clear that Jesus does not condemn all judgment, only that which is hypocritical.
- B. However, making a judgment about another person is a serious matter.
 1. The correct standard must be used and applied without partiality.
 2. Self-examination and correction are absolutely essential.
- C. Jesus illustrated the fact that most are very strict when considering the faults of others while remaining very lenient when consider their own.
- D. Yet, He instructed His disciples to help others see and remove their sins, but only after first examining and correcting oneself.

II. Righteous Judgment Commanded (7:6-23)

- A. Holy things – like one's time and teaching – should not be wasted on those who refuse to recognize their value (7:6).
- B. One who possesses the beatitudes will respect holy things and make request of God who gives what is best to His children (7:7-11).
- C. In turn, the disciple of Jesus must seek what is best for others (7:12).
- D. He will follow the strait and narrow way that leads to life (7:13-14).
- E. He will avoid false teachers by recognizing their fruit (7:15-20).
- F. Finally, he will live in obedience to the will of God (7:21-23).
- G. ALL OF THESE ACTIONS REQUIRE RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT!

III. Wise Judgment Demanded (7:24-29)

- A. The one who judges wisely will listen to and obey the commands of Jesus.
- B. Thus, he will build the house of his faith and life on a rock-solid foundation.
- C. One who judges foolishly will ignore or reject the words of Jesus and build upon a foundation of sand.

Conclusion:

1. The power of Jesus' preaching was seen in the astonishment of His hearers.
2. He taught with His own authority, relying on no other – for He is the Son of God.
3. The beatitudes allow one to respect His Word and appreciate His judgment.