

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

**BLESSED IS THE MAN WHO  
CONFESSES THE NAME OF JESUS**

Text: Matthew 16:17

Introduction:

1. The biblically blessed are those who depend upon God.
2. They inherit the promise made to Abraham by submission to God.
3. Throughout the New Testament, beatitudes describe the heart of one who is a faithful member of the Lord's kingdom – his church.
4. These blessed attitudes will enable one to make it to the eternal kingdom of God in Heaven.

I. The Source of the Confession

- A. Peter confessed what he had learned from God, not what he had heard from men.
- B. The phrase “flesh and blood” was used commonly to refer to man (cf. Galatians 1:16; Ephesians 6:12).
  1. Men said that Jesus was John the Baptist or just a prophet (16:14).
  2. Men said that His human nature and lowly standing meant that He could not be the Son of God (13:54; Mark 6:2-3; Luke 4:22; John 7:12, 25-27, 31-32, 40-43; 9:16; 10:19-21).
  3. Men said He could not be the Messiah (9:34; 12:23-24; John 8:48, 52-53, 57-59).
- C. The Father in Heaven declared the nature and identity of Jesus.
  1. By His inspired teaching (7:28-29; Luke 4:32; John 7:46)
  2. By His miraculous works (John 5:36; 10:25, 32; 14:11)
  3. By a voice from Heaven (3:17; 17:5)
- D. Peter had chosen to listen to the revelation of God rather than the opinions and false teachings of men.
- E. Peter had chosen to confess the Truth of God despite the threats and opposition of men.

II. The Significance of the Confession

- A. Peter confessed that Jesus was more than just a prophet and greater than John the Baptist (cf. John 3:30; Matthew 11:7-10).
- B. Peter confessed, “Thou art the Christ” – meaning that Jesus is the Messiah.
- C. Peter confessed that Jesus is the Son of God.
- D. Peter confessed that Jesus is the Son of the living God.
- E. Thus, Peter publicly acknowledged the deity of Jesus.
- F. This is the same confession that one must make to become a Christian (cf. Acts 8:36-39; Romans 10:9-10).
- G. This is the same confession one must live to be a faithful disciple of Jesus (Matthew 10:32-33; John 9:32; 1 Timothy 6:12-13; Revelation 2:10, 13).

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- III. The Sweetness of the Confession
- A. To be one of God's blessed, one must be willing to make this good confession.
  - B. This means not being ashamed of the Lord or His Gospel (Mark 8:38; Romans 1:16; Philippians 1:20; 2 Timothy 1:8, 12; 1 Peter 4:16).
  - C. Yet the sweetness of this confession is that it makes the Lord unashamed of the confessor (Matthew 10:32-33; Hebrews 2:11; 11:16; 1 John 2:28).
  - D. The one who continually confess Christ is one of God's blessed.