

Beatitudes
What The Bible Teaches About Being Blessed

BLESSED IS THE MAN WHO ENDURES TEMPTATION

Text: James 1:12

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 Context of the Beatitude

- A. The word for “temptation” refers to “an experiment, trial, testing, or proving.”
 1. Thus, it refers to anything that tests one's faith or faithfulness to God.
 2. This may be adversity or affliction (Acts 20:19; 1 Peter 1:6).
 3. It may be persecution or some other kind of suffering (1 Peter 4:12).
 4. It may be enticement to sin.
- B. The Christian is to be able to find joy even in temptation (1:1-8).
 1. Joy in Persecution (vs. 1)
 2. Joy in Problems (vs. 2)
 3. Joy in Patience (vs. 3)
 4. Joy in Perfection (vs. 4)
 5. Joy in Prayer (vs. 5-8)
- C. Temptation to sin does not come from God (1:13-16).
 1. God Himself is untemptable; therefore, He does not tempt anyone to sin.
 2. Instead, man is tempted by his own desires.
 3. Often, this temptation is initiated by others – men (Genesis 3:12) or Satan (3:13; Matthew 4:1-11).

II. The Statement of the Beatitude

- A. The blessed man is one who endures temptation.
 1. The word for “endureth” means, “To remain or tarry behind; thus, not to flee.”
 2. As a result, this word refers to one who perseveres trial and tests and who bears calmly and bravely his burdens (cf. 5:11).
- B. To endure temptation, one must realize that it can be done (John 14:15; Hebrews 4:15).
- C. To endure temptation, one must accept that it must be done (5:19-20).
- D. To endure temptation, one must prepare through prayer (Matthew 6:13; 26:41; Mark 14:38; Luke 11:4; 22:40, 46).
- E. To endure temptation, one must guard his heart (Hebrews 3:8).

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- F. To endure temptation, one must recognize the means of enticement (1 John 2:15-17).
 - G. To endure temptation, one must trust God's faithfulness (1 Corinthians 10:13).
 - 1. The fact of life – *taken you*
 - 2. The fairness of life – *common to man*
 - 3. The faithfulness of God – *God is faithful*
 - 4. The fate of the tempted – *may be able to bear it*
 - H. To endure temptation, one must overcome it.
 - 1. Recognize – *facts about temptation*
 - 2. Resist – *in the mind by drawing close to God (4:7-10)*
 - 3. Run – *flee by God's way of escape (1 Timothy 6:9-11)*
 - 4. Replace – *good for evil (Matthew 12:43-45)*
 - I. Only then will one be blessed.
- III. The Beauty of the Beatitude
- A. There is blessedness in the strength that comes from enduring temptation.
 - B. There is blessedness in the crown of life promised by God.
 - 1. This is the crown of victory.
 - 2. This is the crown of life.
 - 3. This is the crown of promise.
 - C. There is blessedness in the love for God that motivates endurance (Romans 8:28).
 - D. The blessed man is the one who endures temptation.