

Beatitudes
What The Bible Teaches About Being Blessed
BLESSED IS THE MAN WHO IS A
DOER OF THE WORK

Text: James 1:25

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 Perfect Law of Liberty

- A. The Word of God is powerful and essential.
 1. 1:17 – It is a good and perfect gift from God.
 2. 1:18 – It is the word of truth that produces the new birth.
 3. 1:19-20 – It requires hearing with humility and self-control.
 4. 1:21 – It demands repentance and reception.
 5. 1:22-24 – It is the mirror to the soul, demanding contemplation.
 6. 1:25 – It is the perfect law of liberty, demanding obedience.
- B. The word for 'perfect' means, "Wanting nothing necessary to completeness; finished, complete, or perfect."
 1. Christians are commanded to be perfect (Matthew 5:48; 19:21; 1 Corinthians 14:20).
 2. God's Word can make one perfect (Ephesians 4:13; Colossians 1:28; 4:12).
 3. It can do this because it is perfect (Romans 12:2; 1 Corinthians 13:10; James 1:17).
- C. It is a law because it reveals what must be done or not done in order to be right with God and to practice pure religion.
- D. It produces liberty – the freedom to live as one should.
 1. True liberty is always produced and protected by law; namely, the law of God (Psalm 19:7-10; 119:45, 97-105; John 8:32, 36).
 2. God's desire is for man to be free (Romans 8:15; 2 Corinthians 3:17-18; Galatians 5:1; 1 Peter 2:16).
- E. It is to be looked into – to stoop or lean close to in order to look closely and carefully inspect.
 1. The word for 'behold' means, "To observe fully; to consider attentively; to fix one's eye or mind upon; to understand."
 2. The word for 'forget' means, "To lose out of mind; to neglect or no longer care for."
 3. The word for 'continue' means, "To stay near; to remain beside."
- F. God's Word must be continuously considered and obeyed to keep one free from sin.

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- II. The Doer of the Work
- A. There are some who hear the Word of God but do not obey it.
 - B. There are some who hear the Word of God and obey it but become “forgetful hearers” who soon neglect it.
 - C. Then there are some who hear the Word of God and faithfully obey it.
 - D. These are “doers of the word” and “doers of the work.”
 - 1. It is important to hear the Gospel.
 - 2. It is important to believe the Gospel.
 - 3. But neither are beneficial without obedience of the Gospel.
 - E. Continual obedience is required (cf. John 8:31; 15:9-10; Acts 2:42; 1 Timothy 4:16).
- III. The Blessedness of Doing
- A. Carefully consider the beatitude: “This man shall be blessed in his deed.”
 - 1. The word for ‘deed’ refers to “action; the obedience he renders to the law.”
 - 2. Literally, “He shall [will] be blessed in his doing” (ASV, ESV).
 - B. Alford wrote: “The life of obedience is the element wherein the blessedness is found and consists.”
 - C. To be one of God’s blessed, one must be doing the will of God.
 - D. There is a reward for keeping the commandments of God – and that reward is blessedness (Psalm 19:11; 106:3; 119:2-3; Luke 11:28; John 13:17).
 - E. Thus, this beatitude harmonizes with the conclusion of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 7:24-27).