

Beatitudes
What The Bible Teaches About Being Blessed

THE BLESSED FATHER

Text: Proverbs 20:1-8

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.
5. These principles have application in one's life, one's community, and one's family.

I. The Proverb

(Proverbs 20:7)

- A. The book of Proverbs is considered a part of the Old Testament writings referred to as "poetry" or "wisdom literature" (Job – Song of Solomon).
- B. Wisdom literature deals with the difficult and puzzling questions men face in life.
 1. JOB – *the problem of suffering*
 2. PROVERBS – *the troubles and temptations of life*
 3. ECCLESIASTES – *the meaning of life*
 4. Thus, wisdom writings are sometimes called "dark sayings" (Psalm 49:4; 78:2; Proverbs 1:6).
- C. There are several purposes of wisdom literature.
 1. To point man toward God and His true wisdom
 2. To define true wisdom
 3. To explore difficult questions common to man
 4. To state broad truths in an understandable and easy-to-remember format
 5. To encourage righteous living
- D. "A proverb is a wise saying in which a few words are chosen instead of many, with a design to condense wisdom into a brief form both to aid memory and stimulate study. Hence proverbs are not only 'wise sayings,' but 'dark sayings' – parables, in which wisdom is disguised in a figurative or enigmatic form like a deep well, from which instruction is to be drawn, or a rich mine, from which it is to be dug. Only profound meditation will reveal what is hidden in these moral and spiritual maxims" (Arthur T. Pierson).
- E. This proverb states a simple but important truth: "***The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him.***"
 1. The word 'just' means, "Lawful or righteous."
 2. To walk means to act habitually, to live a lifestyle.
 3. The word 'integrity' refers to "completeness" or "moral innocence."
 4. "The conduct of good men proclaims their sound principles."

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- II. The Context (Proverbs 20:1-8)
- A. The verses surrounding this statement demonstrate the proverb.
 - B. Vs. 1 – A wise man is not deceived by drunkenness.
 - C. Vs. 2 – A wise man does not rebel against authority.
 - D. Vs. 3 – A wise man does not meddle in the affairs of others.
 - E. Vs. 4 – A wise man does not indulge in laziness.
 - F. Vs. 5 – A wise man seeks out wise counsel.
 - G. Vs. 6 – A wise man does not boast but shows steadfastness.
 - H. Vs. 8 – A wise man overcomes evil by practicing justice.
- III. The Beatitude (Proverbs 20:7)
- A. A man who lives by these principles with integrity will secure blessings for his children.
 - B. He will set an example that his children may learn from and follow (cf. Psalm 37:23-28).
 - C. He will teach them the way of righteousness (cf. Genesis 18:19; Deuteronomy 11:18-21; Ephesians 6:4).
 - D. He will provide a foundation on which faithful lives may be built (cf. Psalm 112:1-3).
 - E. The blessed father seeks to provide spiritually for his family so that his children may also become blessed (Psalm 78:1-8).