

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

**THE DEVIL'S BEATITUDES**

Text: Matthew 5:1-12

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 Bible, beatitudes describe the heart of one who is a faithful servant of the Lord and a member of His family.
4. However, the devil always seeks to corrupt that which God has created or given.
5. Imagine the “beatitudes” of the devil...

I. A Simple View

A. There is a list that makes the rounds regularly titled: “The Devil’s Beatitudes.”

B. The author of this list is unknown, but it presents a simple view of this idea that is very thought-provoking.

1. Blessed are those who are too tired, too busy, too distracted to spend an hour once a week with their fellow Christians—they are my best workers.
2. Blessed are those Christians who wait to be asked and expect to be thanked—I can use them.
3. Blessed are the touchy, with a bit of luck they may stop going to church services—they are my missionaries.
4. Blessed are those who are bored with the minister’s mannerisms and mistakes for they get nothing out of his sermons.
5. Blessed are the troublemakers—they shall be called my children.
6. Blessed are those who have no time to pray—they are easy prey for me.
7. Blessed are the gossipers—for they are my secret agents.
8. Blessed are those critical of church leadership—for they shall inherit a place with me in my fate.
9. Blessed are those who do not give their offering to carry on God’s work for they are my helpers.
10. Blessed are those who professes to love God but hate their brother and sister for they shall be with me forever.
11. Blessed are those who compromise God’s word for they will spend eternity with me.
12. Blessed are the complainers—I’m all ears for them.
13. Blessed are those who make excuses for their sins for they obey me.
14. Blessed are you when you read this and think it is about other people and not yourself—I’ve got you!

C. Truly, these attitudes are pleasing to the devil.

II. A Selfish View

A. The following information was adapted from a lesson by Gary Summers based on a document written by a man called Ragnar Redbeard.

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1. This was likely a pseudonym for Arthur Desmond, a Social Darwinist from New Zealand who moved to Chicago in 1895.
  2. He is thought to have written the treatise *Might Is Right*, published in 1896.
- B. This essay contained his “beatitudes” based on the “survival of the fittest.”
- C. It is filled with blasphemous egotism, denouncing the Bible, Jesus, and Christianity.
- III. A Satanic View
- A. The following are Ragnar’s words, truly the Devil’s Beatitudes:
  - B. “Blessed are the strong, for they shall possess the earth. Cursed are the weak, for they shall inherit the yoke.”
  - C. “Blessed are the powerful, for they shall be revered among men. Cursed are the feeble, for they shall be blotted out.”
  - D. “Blessed are the bold, for they shall be masters of the world. Cursed are the humble, for they shall be trodden under hoofs.”
  - E. “Blessed are the victorious, for victory is the basis of right. Cursed are the vanquished, for they shall be vassals forever.”
  - F. “Blessed are the battle-blooded. Beauty shall smile upon them. Cursed are the poor in spirit, for they shall be spat upon.”
  - G. “Blessed are the audacious, for they have imbibed true wisdom. Cursed are the obedient, for they shall breed creepings.”
  - H. “Blessed are the iron-handed; the unfit shall flee before them. Cursed are the haters of battle; subjugation is their portion.”
  - I. “Blessed are the destroyers of false hope; they are the true messiahs. Cursed are the God-adorers; they shall be shorn sheep.”
  - J. “Blessed are the valiant, for they shall obtain great treasure. Cursed are the believers in good and evil, for they are frightened by shadows.”
  - K. “Blessed are those who believe in nothing; never shall it terrorize their minds. Cursed are the ‘lambs of god;’ they shall bleed [sic] ‘whiter than snow.’”
  - L. “Blessed is the man who has powerful enemies; they shall make him a hero. Cursed is he who ‘doeth good’ unto others; he shall be despised.”
  - M. “Blessed is the man whose foot is swift to serve a friend; he is a friend in deed. Cursed are the organizers of charities; they are propagators of plagues.”
  - N. “Blessed are the wise and brave, for in struggle they shall win. Cursed are the unfit, for they shall be righteously exterminated.”
  - O. “Blessed are the sires of noble maidens; they are the salt of the Earth. Cursed the mothers of strumous tenderlings, for they shall be ashamed.”
  - P. “Blessed are the mighty-minded, for they shall ride the whirlwinds. Cursed are those who teach lies for truth and truth for lies, for they are – abomination.”
  - Q. “Blessed are the unmerciful; their posterity shall own the world. Cursed are the famous wiselings; their seed shall perish off the Earth.”
  - R. Who could accept such a view of God and humanity?
    1. Of course, it was this attitude that crucified Jesus.
    2. This way of thinking still wages war against the church today.
  - S. Sadly, those who do not practice mercy toward others will receive no mercy on the Day of Judgment (Matthew 5:7; James 2:13).

Conclusion:

1. The “Devil’s Beatitudes” can only bring condemnation.
2. The Lord’s Beatitudes produce salvation and eternal life in Heaven.