



A Hunger for Righteousness

The Beatitudes

“And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” Matthew 5:1-12

A Hunger for Righteousness

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.” (vs. 6)

1. Hunger and thirst are a natural desire from the moment we are born.
2. Hunger and thirst can only be satisfied temporarily.
 - a. The thirst of salvation is quenched once and for all (John 4:14).
 - b. Jesus is speaking of the daily thirst for the life of holiness and righteousness. The sin-free walk of sanctification.
3. Everyone has hunger and thirst (male, female, young, old, educated, uneducated).
 - a. Hunger and thirst are a type of faith (Isaiah 55:1).
 - b. Our faith – after obtaining salvation – should seek righteousness before the world.
4. God’s goal for our daily life, before the world, is to be sin free.
 - a. By the word:

1. *"Your word I have hidden in my heart that I might not sin against You" (Psalms 119:11).*
 2. *"These things I write to you, so that you may not sin" (1 John 2:1).*
 3. *"By which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises... having escaped the corruption that is in the world" (2 Peter 1:4).*
- b. By the Holy Spirit:
"Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh" (Galatians 5:16).
- c. By the Soon Coming of Jesus for the Church:
"And everyone who has this hope (the rapture) in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure" (1 John 3:3).
- d. Using Jesus as our Example:
"But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked" (1 John 2:5-6).

Two Types of Righteousness:

1. Positional – Occurs at salvation (eternal).
Righteousness in our spirit cannot be increased and never needs to be refreshed or satisfied again.
2. Temporal – Occurs in our daily walk (life).
Righteousness in our natural life can increase and always needs to be refreshed and satisfied again.

Jesus is Giving Us a Call to Sanctification

"Because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy" (1 Peter 1:16).

"Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you" (2 Corinthians 6:17).

"Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see (perceive, understand) the Lord..." (Hebrews 12:14).