



Sermon on the Mount

Be² Attitudes

Beatitudes

Welcome to Jesus Time where we spend time with Jesus in His time and culture.

Question? Did you noticed the squared number of 2 placed upon the “Be” on the cover of this lesson. In mathematics when a number 2 is placed above another this is an arithmetic operator which signifies multiplying a number by itself.

Within this lesson in like manor we will find that our Lord Jesus will emphasize and seek to multiply His GODLY Character with instructive moral imperatives for our conducive conduct becoming equal unto His own as humanly possible.

Get that?

Jesus will now teach us how to think, react, and to literally “Be²” as close to He as we can be.

Now at this point in Jesus’s Ministry the crowds were not just gathering before Him, they were following Jesus wherever publicly He did go with peoples even awaiting Christ below upon this hillside plateau.

While that night Jesus ascended and bended His knees in Prayer, so by dawns early light shining bright, this be where- the Lord did speak unto everyone there. (Referencing Dr. Luke 6:12-13)

Jesus had just spent the night Praying alone upon a hilltop after which He summoned from amongst His Disciples 12- that Christ Messiah named as leading Apostles in order to preserve and share His Gospel.

✝ He (Jesus) went down with them and stood on a level place. A large crowd of his disciples was there and a great number of people from all over Judea, from Jerusalem, and from the coastal region around Tyre and Sidon, ¹⁸ who had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. Those troubled by impure spirits were cured, ¹⁹ and the people all tried to touch him, because power was coming from him and healing them all.

Dr. Luke 6: 17-19 NIV

Dr. Luke as we have just read details for us the historical set up of this momentous occasion.

However it was Matthew an Apostle who was present whom we know previously in his life prior to Christ was well known as Levi the tax collector. Meaning he had the practical skill of being able to record exactly & vastly much factual information.

& thusly how blessed all of humanity has been ever since. Because of this Sermon a teaching message fully contained in Matthew chapters 5 through 7 by Jesus is considered to be the- “Greatest Speech of all Time.” As Jesus our Christ instructs His believers in Faith, hope, morals of conduct, & Prayer.

Not only do Christians treasure these words but they are also equally valued by many secular peoples. Even unbelievers acknowledge Christ as the greatest teacher of morals becoming ethics of all time.

The Apostle Matthew records this entire discourse of our Lord that is known collectively as the “ Sermon on the Mount.” Again recognized by scholars and Theologians alike as the greatest speech of all time.

We will break down each topic that our Lord covers one by one, this be until the Lord is done!

So with the crowds coming and our Lords organizing staff now in place, let us also now listen to what the Lord has to say in this beautiful outdoor wide open espace.

Continuing

✝ Jesus saw the crowds and went up a hill, where he sat down. His disciples gathered around him, ² and he began to teach them:

Matthew 5:1 GNT

This "Sermon on the Mount" was unquestionably given in Galilee in the spring prior to Jesus's second public Passover. Meaning large crowds with money in hand would be gathering for safety in numbers, because soon they would be traveling toward Jerusalem for their required pilgrimage to the Temple. While naturally at this time and place they would also be seeking to see and hear Jesus for themselves. Christ's fame has spread over the long winter months while giving the Lord ample time in Capernaum to Pray and prepare; to finally be able to deliver His good news Gospel Message.

Dr. Luke explained early on this morning Jesus first met the crowds of people and healed them. Was it hundreds or thousands? Many!

Then scripture says; Jesus climbed a little bit up the hill as too where everyone could hear and see Him when He sat down. This being a Jewish Rabbis custom which meant for everyone else to sit down and quiet themselves because their teacher was about to speak.

Now "The greatest and most famous speech of all time" as given by our Lord Jesus begins with what is forever known as the "Beatitudes."

Beatitude in each Greek and Latin means Blessed.

Which of course means a state of great joyful happiness.

Fortunately most people automatically tend to think of the Beatitudes as the "Be" attitudes as in what our attitudes should be upon these topics.

Here from the King James are the Beatitudes presented in their entirety from Matthew 5:

✝ And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,
Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after 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 the children of God.
Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake:
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all
manner of evil against you falsely for my sake.
Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven:
for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

✝ Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

This Beatitude indeed summarizes all of Christ's Life as our redeeming Savior. Jesus is not speaking about being physically poor but rather being Spiritually poor. All humanity ever since our fall of Sin within the Garden of Eden have been born Spiritually dead. We are all born physically alive while on the inside- we are all literally a GOD given eternal soul this be the essence of our being, this means we are born physically alive with an eternal soul but without Spiritually life. This be our ability to have Communion with our Holy, Just, & Pure Heavenly Father. To be called poor of anything denotes a need or lack while Jesus makes plain our want is Spiritual. Greek word 4434 is used by Jesus denoting poor which in fact specifies a beggar without any means. As in Christ was conveying unto the crowds that whomever you are; rich or poor, pious or no- that everyone as in all do stand before Heavenly Father- in Jehovah's sight & insight as a Spiritual beggar. This means our Communion our relationship with Holy GOD is lost as a species do to our Sin nature. Because Sin is within each and every one of us. Scripturally speaking Sin is a human heredity disease. So Blessed are the ones who hear Jesus's Gospel message & receive His pardon of Sin by Grace of Faith. Jesus begins by stating " Blessed " or be happy with great joy humanity bound by Sin. Because the ability to be reborn as in born Spiritually again is through Him. Messiah is Jesus and He gives Spiritual Life as our Saving Christ.

✝ Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

Our first reaction pertains to those who have suffered some painful trauma or emotional loss. While Spiritually these words of Jesus do include the inference of those troubled by Sin. Our Christ's first words within His Beatitudes indicated this message is Spiritual. While it is Spiritual people who do mourn over their own and others Sin. Our Sin debt being paid consoles and eases our guilty conscience. Israel's elite the wealthy Sadducees offered Israel no hope at all. Selfishly claiming there was no afterlife meaning no justice for the victim. Nor any recompense of reckoning as too the guilty Sins of mankind before GOD. These denying Sadducees thought and taught our destiny was to become food for worms. Offering only pessimism & dread being replaced by Faith in GOD by Jesus with hope & optimism. Remember the undeniable, unexplainable, fulfilled prophecy & miracles of Jesus Christ are our proof.

✝ Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

The Strongs Greek definition of "Meek" is mild and humble which in turn means gentle. Meaning of course someone who is the exact opposite of a person loud and proud. Being Meek does not mean someone is weak nor does it ever imply cowardice. Biblically speaking scripture proves that Heavenly Father values characteristics which mirror His own. Per say long suffering of patience while demonstrating compassion & forgiveness from insult or injury without feeling any need for vengeance. As in seeking Justice is not the same as one desiring revenge. Being content and supportive of others especially when in a season of gain. While acting just the same within a setback or of being lowly in stature. Believers only and always focused by trusting in a Heavenly reward. These indeed forever be the hallmarks of a truly peaceful person.

Now as for Jesus stating the “Meek” shall inherit the Earth:

Jesus is quoting :

✝ But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

Psalm 37:11 KJV

When: At Jesus Second Coming Advent

✝ Then the sovereignty, power and greatness of all the kingdoms under heaven will be handed over to the holy people of the Most High. His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all rulers will worship and obey him.’ Daniel 7:27 NIV

As for false humility presented here is another common Pharisaical saying from Jesus’s Time:

“My humility is my Greatness and my Greatness is my humility.”

Ok- what do you even say to that? The calling of oneself great is certainly not humility!

This be the words of the Pharisee’s, so what about their deeds?

The “Amoraim” meaning Jewish scholars post Roman Diaspora from 200 - 500 AD/CE mostly in Babylon. At the conclusion of the Mishna or Oral Traditions during the 5th centuries closure of the Babylonian Talmud being the recordings and commentary of all Jewish Law, Religion, & Theology.

These Amoraim were the successors of the Pharisees as Rabbis after Jesus.

So what did they learn from Jesus and or from being humiliated and dispersed by Roman might?

The prominent Amoraim Rabbi Jannai taught that it should become routine for any student of his- that wherever in the future they should be inside of a Jewish community, to advance 4 cubits into a road thusly stopping all traffic and then publicly proceed to Pray.

Not for GOD, nor even Praying for the community in question, but rather for the sole reason of being seen. This was thought & taught to Rabbis students in order to assert their pious religious authority.

In Jesus Time Jewish Pride was of race.

In Jesus Time Geek Pride was of intellect.

In Jesus Time Roman Pride was of power.

Notice Jesus said only the Meek will “inherit” the Earth, as in those humble in the Lord because a humble person would never think they are deserving of GOD’S Kingdom by being “who” they are, nor by what they “know” or because of the things they “do.”

Knowing of our Sinful pride on the inside, the humbly meek simply seek- Jesus as their Savior.

Continuing

✝ Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness:
for they shall be filled.

Righteousness is one of those big religious words that means doing right & being right with Holy purity. By desiring a peaceful existence with GOD’S goodness while trying to live right without any Sinful strife.

✝ Whoever pursues righteousness and kindness will find life,
righteousness, and honor.

Proverbs 21:21 ESV

Continuing

✝ Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Of course we know this means human beings who are tenderhearted with others while having ample patience of understanding. Especially even when a personal justifiable recompense of someone is due. This does not mean that Justice is not applied but rather personal gratification is selflessly denied. As opposed to the Pharisees who were piously harsh not knowing nor ever giving of even a little mercy. When we begin to realize as GOD extends His Mercy unto each and every one of us- as in compared to our very own shortcomings of failures in Sin, then we too must accept the oft bitter realization that an accusation or even retribution may be rightfully ours to dispense unto someone deservingly so. As Christ's Grace is freely given to us- likewise our trespassers deserve the Mercy Jesus extends. Meaning we too should do as by Christ's example, to afford His Mercy unto others in Sin for Him.

Continuing

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

Purity of heart speaks of ones true inner moral character, secret motivations, and deepest desires. Sadly tis true far to many people even amongst Believers apply their maximum efforts of word, deed, & even of charity only for the unprincipled illicit gain of public praise or personal recognition. Those purified by Faith, are to forever strive in containing within themselves no vanity. While tirelessly laboring for the refining of our very own profane thoughts. Israel's elite only displayed a cold ritual purity- while Christ in Jesus thought and taught from His heart. This is Why? We as Christian Believers must always Prayerfully examine our own actions. Remember we will fail but the Holy Spirit has already prevailed. On our behalf. You know: do not be too hard on yourself when you discover or the Lord reveals something to you of you that is shamefully selfish, unapologetically apathetic, or emotionally disturbing of a Spiritually lacking. Never forget: Moses had a quick temper even once unto what he considered to be a justifiable homicide. King David committed adultery and then he arraigned an innocent mans murder to conceal his Sin. Peter the Rock before a mere child in our Lord's darkest hour did deny even knowing Christ thrice. If these Biblical hero's of the most High GOD had human moments that they failed then so shall we too. Tis true this proves; that we as Christians are not exempt from Sinning we are just forgiven.

✝ But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart."

1st Samuel 16:7 ESV

✝ Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the heart.

Proverbs 21:2 RSV

✝ Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

Psalms 51:10 KJV

Continuing

✝ Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

To be a peacemaker implies that emotional strife of intellectual or even irrational contention has or will soon give way to conflict. This can be either personal or professional. Perhaps both.

Misunderstood actions or irritating interactions can trigger a long simmering slight or finally ignite a long coming fight.

Especially today within our hyper sensitive society by which it does seem everyone and everything can be called callous or offensive by someone.

Quoting from : The Interpreters Bible, Book of Matthew 1951.

“ The appeal to angered prejudice is the stock and trade of some politicians while the cry for understanding is often a lonely cry.”

This quote was recorded from Christian authors who had just lived through the Second World War as they were now reflective as too the devastating cause of that supremely destructive conflict.

Meaning sometimes our differences are unavoidable- but we can carefully defuse the ticking time bomb of escalation, while being aware that others do dare to engage & engage disagreement.

Yes, some things are non negotiable but does this mean everything must be overblown inflatable?

Jesus says those with kind words and likewise actions do serve Him as His influential living examples of calm helping others find or to be able to keep their peace.

By easing tense conflicts between individuals or groups of peoples, such as these are respected in Heaven, those who treasure their own personal peace and are able to instill reason within others.

✝ A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

²The tongue of the wise dispenses knowledge,
but the mouths of fools pour out folly.

Proverbs 15:1-2 RSV

✝ Pursue peace with all people, and the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.

Hebrews 12:14 NASB

Continuing

✝ Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake:
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Jesus first instructed us to seek His GODLY Righteousness, while now our Savior circles back to this previously mentioned directive. Lord in Christ now informs and warns us that all too often those striving for GODLY Righteousness can and often do serve as an constant reminder of Faith and goodness unto others whom are still embracing and even enjoying living within their own Sin. As in reminding others of their guilt and accountability as in their own personal liability of Sin. It is an unfortunate human reaction that some people will lash out at others whom do remind them by words or lifestyle that they are indeed answerable before Holy GOD for their Sin within. When a Righteousness seeking person takes no pleasure or desires no gain of leisure from a situation of a perceived permissible wrong; such as gossiping or carousing, this can be perceived as a killjoy while actually morally conflicting and internally convicting the wrongdoer.(’s) Insofar as too the extent of discrediting, marginalizing, or even the abuse of the Faithful person.

Continuing

✝ Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake.

✝ Do not be surprised, believers, if the world hates you. 1st John 3:13 AMP

✝ If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you.
¹⁹ If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you. John 15:18-19 NASB

Why? Does the non believing world hate Jesus and His Disciples.
Because He & we remind them of their Sin.

So, we are first to seek His Righteousness while being warned this secondly will naturally rub some people the wrong way. Especially those within certain situations of Sin.

While now Jesus explains it is His reputation and His directives that will draw the Sinners ire. Remember Israel's elite attempted to discredit, marginalize, and certainly abused Lord Christ Himself. Jesus was falsely denied and lied upon, defied contemptuously with each neglectful apathy & outright malice. Yet He did forgo any deserving recompense thusly being perceived as weak but was rather truly for our sake being humbly meek. As in He was preparing to pay our Sin debt unto His Heavenly Father. How selfishly short sighted are we; those of us who stubbornly refuse to believe- That Jesus is He, our Saving Messiah Christ indeed.

Remember several secular historical records do remain: (Mishna ~ Babylonian Talmud ~ Sanhedrin)
Jesus is named as raising the dead and by Him multitudes were miraculously fed.
Lepers were cleansed and the Lame made quick, while none of the charges made against Him would ever stick. As Christ gave sight to the blind- all while renewing our Spiritual life on the inside.
So say; Josephus a Pharisee ~ Pliny the Younger a Roman Lawyer caught up in Legal questions about Jesus, ~ Suetonius a Roman Biographer ~ & Tacitus a Pagan Roman Historian.

Concluding

✝ Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven:
for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

Christ our Lord now informs us Why? We must deny our Sinful selfish pride and live humble lives:
That we may be rewarded in Heaven for living- as our Lord and Savior Jesus directs us to live.
Tis true by Christ our Salvation is given but our Heavenly reward is by our very own due distinction.

✝ Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.
² Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit. Psalm 32:1-2 NIV

How the Plan of the Great I AM- Who is Holy works for a Sinner such as us:

Jesus is our ultimate Blessing, by Faith we receive Spiritual Life through Christ while receiving His Grace of Pardon from our Sins. It is then the Holy Spirit resides inside each of us at Salvation.
Sanctifying us instantly by His presence while we also struggle & strive in our lifetime to purify inside.
When we are "Born Again" this be our Spiritual life of restoration and reconciliation between an Sinful individual and Heavenly Father equating Justification; of not being lost to Sin before Him- Holy GOD.
Being Justified before GOD our Sin being wiped from our account equates our Righteousness in His sight.