

The Beatitudes, Part 1
Sunday, March 5, 2017
Dr. Janet Cook, Senior Pastor
© 2017 Prayers Ministries, Inc., dba River of Life Community Church

Note: All Scriptures are from the NKJV Bible.

The Beatitudes

Matthew 5:1-12

“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

“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.’”

- The basic meaning of "blessed" is happy. However, happiness in a biblical sense has a much deeper meaning.
- The biblical meaning is “a spiritual joy and satisfaction that lasts regardless of conditions, which carries one through pain, sorrow, loss, and grief.”
- To be "poor in spirit" is to humbly bow our hearts to God, acknowledging our total spiritual poverty before Him and our complete dependence upon Him.
- Examples: Judges 6:14-15; Exodus 4:1-12; Isaiah 6:5; Luke 5:8;

"Jesus puts this beatitude first because humility is the foundation of all other graces, a basic element in becoming a Christian. Pride has no part in Christ’s kingdom, and until a person surrenders pride he cannot enter the kingdom.” (*Author unknown*)