

# The 8 Beatitudes of Jesus

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

- Poor in spirit represents humility.
- Humility brings an openness and an inner peace, allowing one to do the will of God

## ***Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted.***

- Mourning in this context is called a blessing, because mourning our fallen nature creates in us a desire to improve ourselves and to do what is right. We will be comforted on earth and in heaven.

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

- Jesus was meek but not weak. Jesus was "meek and humble of heart" (Matthew 11:29).
- A person that is meek exhibits self-control and a docile spirit in the face of adversity.
- Obedience and submission to God brings peace on earth and heaven.

## ***Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.***

- Justice and righteousness in the New Covenant indicate the fulfillment of God's will in your heart and soul.
- It is not mere observance of the law (Matthew 5:20), but rather an expression of brotherly love (1 John 3:10)

## ***Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.***

- "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful" (Luke 6:36).
- Mercy is the loving disposition towards those who suffer distress. Love, compassion, and forgiveness towards a family member or neighbor will bring peace in your relationships. The Lord's prayer... forgive our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us...

## ***Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God.***

- To be pure of heart means to be free of all selfish intentions and self-seeking desires.
- What a beautiful goal! How many times have any of us performed an act perfectly free of any personal gain?
- Such an act is pure love. An act of pure and selfless giving brings happiness to all.

## ***Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.***

- Jesus gives us peace - "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you" (John 14:27). Peace is a Fruit of the Spirit.
- The Lord wants you first to be filled with the blessings of peace and then to pass it on to those who have need of it.
- By imitating God's love of man, the peacemakers become children of God.

## ***Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.***

- "Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so men persecuted the prophets who were before you" (Matthew 5:11-12).
- Jesus said many times that those who follow Him will be persecuted. "If they persecute me, they will persecute you" (John 15:20-21).
- "Whoever is made to suffer as a Christian should not be ashamed but glorify God because of the name" (1 Peter 4:16).
- Gospel of Matthew 5:3-10

