

How Does My Life Compare to the Beatitudes

Blessed are the poor in spirit : What does poor in spirit mean? It's speaking of being poor or lacking of the carnal nature with it's emotions and characteristics. Let's look deeper into this and name some of these characteristics of man. Are we haughty; proud; arrogant; critical; self- righteous; high tempered; contentious; cranky; vengeful? Do we hate some individuals ; do we have emulation; envy; are we pushy; bossy; snooty; heady; high-minded? Are we a braggart; scornful; rash; egotistical ? Are we quick to forgive; easily offended; do we lie to others to make ourselves look good; do we often offend others with our words or actions ? Do we love ourselves more than we love others, more than we love God? These are just a few areas where we should be poor in spirit. Yet in the characteristics of God we need to be rich in them. Look up these scriptures. Pro. 14:9; Pro. 15:18 & 28; Pro. 16:18-19 & 27 & 32; Pro. 18:12; Pro. 22:10; Pro. 25:28; Pro.27:2 & 3; Mtt. 23:12; James 1:19-20; James 3:1- 4:6

Blessed are they that mourn : Some look at this scripture as a blessing to those who have lost a love one. While it is true that God does comfort our grief and sorrows, but that is not what this refers to. It refers to our attitude toward God and his Kingdom and also our mourning to receive the Holy Ghost. Do we long for God's Kingdom to come into it's fullness? Are we distressed when we see evil and sin in the world and in the church? Do we long to see righteousness, mercy, tenderness and compassion for others? Are we mournful over our own weakness and failures ? See Ez. 9:46; IICor;1:3-7; Rev. 21:3-4; John 14:16 & 26; John 15:26 James 4:9; Isaiah 61:2

Blessed are the meek: Meek does not mean weak ! Jesus is a perfect example of meekness. He never took up for himself, but was humble, and yet against evil, sin and wrong; he was like roaring lion. He was not weak or he could not have endured all he went through. Meek is being gentle, kind, patient, humble, forbearing, submissive. As I said Jesus is a perfect example; He was persecuted, yet he persisted, Reviled, yet he reviled not again, misunderstood, but not swayed. His strength sustained him at every turn. He pressed steadfast toward the cross. He was the supreme example of forbearance and love. See Ps. 37:7-25; Ps. 147:6; Eph. 4:2; Phil. 2:1-8; IITim.2:24-26; Gal. 5:22-26; Mtt. 11:29; IPeter3:4.

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: this is self-explanatory. Let's go to some scriptures. Ps.107:9; Pro. 27:7; Jer. 29:13; Luke 1:53; Luke 11:9-13; John 4:23-24; John 6:26-27 & 53-58; Col. 3:1-10; Ps.42:1-2

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Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy: This also needs no explanation. We all need mercy and the way to get it is to give or show mercy to others. We can also lay-up mercy for our children and grandchildren. See Pro. 11:17; Pro. 21:21; Mtt. 6:12-15; Mtt. 7:1-5; Mtt. 18:21-35; Mtt. 23:23-28; Gal. 6:7-8; Eph. 4:30-32; James 2:1-13.

Blessed are the pure in heart: You can have a glass of pure water, no contaminants of any kind, then you add one drop of gasoline to it is no longer pure. They used to say Ivory soap was 99.9 percent pure. Yet not 100 percent. To be pure in heart means we are looking out for others instead of ourselves. Loving God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength and to love our neighbor as our self. Let's look up some scriptures to show us how to have a pure heart. Psalms chapter 15; Ps. 24:3-5; Pro.15:26; Pro.22:11; Is.33:14-17; Eph. 5:1-13; II Tim. 2:20-22; Phil.4:8; I Tim. 1:5; I Peter1:22

Blessed are the peacemakers: Those that make peace with their fellowman and with God shall be called the children of God. We cannot neglect peace with God! How is that done? By keeping his commandments! So it is not just living in peace with each other. See Ps. 34:14-16; Pro.16:6-7 & 27-28; Pro. 17:9-14; Pro. 20:3; Rom. 12:14-18; I Thess. 5:12; I Tim 2:1-3; Heb.12:14-15.

Blessed are they that are persecuted for righteousness : Luke says to leap for joy. We are not blessed when we are buffeted for our own mistakes but for righteousness. See I Cor. 4:12-13; II Cor. 4:8-10; II Thess. 1:4-5; II Tim.2:11-12; Heb. 11:23-25; I Peter 2:19-23; I Peter 3:14-17; I Peter 4: 12-19.

Blessed are ye when ye are reviled: See Luke 6:22-23; Acts 5:40-41; Rom. 5:3-5; II Cor. 4:17-5:2; Psalms chapter 15.

So How Did You Do ? Have You Got A Few Things To Work On !