

THE BEATITUDES DESCRIBE THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

Matthew 5:3-12

(Not entirely original with me)

Introduction: No doubt countless sermons have been preached on the beatitudes Jesus gave which describe the character and conduct Christians should have and exhibit. However upon closer examination, the very character and conduct Jesus said that Christians should have is the very description of the Lord Jesus, Himself. He displayed every characteristic mentioned in the beatitudes, therefore Jesus' life is described by the beatitudes. He lived what He taught.

1. "...*Blessed are the poor in spirit...*"

- Jesus became poor for mankind's sake that through His poverty, believers might be rich.
- He was born of parents who were poor of the world's things.
- During His youth and early adulthood, He worked as a carpenter.
- Beginning His public ministry, He mentioned that foxes had their dens and birds have nests, He, the Son of Man didn't have anywhere to lay His head - He had no home.

2. "...*Blessed are they that mourn...*"

- Jesus was indeed the Man of Sorrows and acquainted with grief.
- He grieved over the hardness of people's hearts.
- He grieved as He healed the deaf and dumb.
- He grieved at the tomb of His friend Lazarus.
- He poured out His petitions to His heavenly Father, with strong crying and tears.
- He grieved from the cross when God His Heavenly Father forsook Him and He was all alone.

3. "...*Blessed are the meek...*"

- It was not the wise, the learned, the great, the noble Jesus chose to be His followers, but it was mostly the poor fishermen.
- The company which He kept was not the rich and popular, but He was the Friend of publicans and sinners.
- Whenever He healed someone, He told them not to go tell anybody what He had done for that person.
- Jesus avoided the lime-light, shunned advertising and didn't want to be famous and popular.
- Whenever His disciples wanted Him to go show Himself to everyone, He refused and would slip around as quietly as He could, not wanting to draw attention to Himself.
- One time, at the last of His ministry, He allowed people to make a "big deal" about Him and that was when He entered Jerusalem riding upon a lowly ass.

4. "...*Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness...*"

- Upon coming into this world He said that He had come to do the will of God, His Heavenly Father.
- When only 12 years old He said that He must be about His Father's business.
- When starting His public ministry He said that He had not come to do away with the law or what the prophets taught, but He came to fulfill everything.
- Jesus told His disciples that His food was to do the will of Him who sent Him.

5. "...Blessed are the merciful..."

- It was mercy to lost sinful mankind which caused Him to exchange the glory of Heaven for the shame of sinful humanity that He came.
- It was mercy which took Jesus to the Cross and there take on mankind's sin, making Him a curse to God.
- Therefore the fact: **"...not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us..."**
- Jesus still exercises mercy to believers as their merciful and faithful High Priest.
- In "that Day", Jesus will show mercy to those who have believed in Him.

6. "...Blessed are the pure in heart..."

- Jesus was the Lamb without spot and without blemish.
- Jesus was uncontaminated and did not defile Himself every with sin.
- Jesus was holy, harmless, undefiled, and separate from sinful mankind.
- In Him was not sin and therefore He did no sin.
- Because Jesus was absolutely pure in nature, His motives and actions were always pure.

7. "...Blessed are the peacemakers..."

- Jesus made peace through His blood on His cross.
- He is the one who pacified God's wrath and satisfied every demand of God's law and glorified God's justice and holiness.
- Jesus made peace between the Jews and Gentiles, joining them together in Him.
- There is coming a time when Jesus will make peace on this sinful, war stricken world.
- Jesus shall reign and there shall be no end to His rule and He well deserves the title, "The Prince of Peace."

8. "...Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake..."

- None has ever been persecuted as Jesus, the Righteousness One was.
- Upon His first public appearance there was an effort to throw Him off a cliff and kill Him.
- In the temple people picked up rocks to throw at Him.
- Throughout His ministry there were always those who hated Him and tried to get rid of Him.
- Some charged Him with being demon possessed.
- Drunkards made up songs about him.
- He had his hair yanked out, people spit in His face, slapped Him, beaten by soldiers, had a "crown" of thorns shoved down upon His head, forced to carry a heavy cross to where He was nailed to it and crucified.
- In His dying moments, people still made hateful accusations and laughed at Him as He hung on the cross.

CONCLUSION:

1. Every beatitude is a description of a part of the life of Jesus Christ.
2. Every beatitude when kept will bring it's own reward in it's own way.
3. As Jesus lived, so should every believer/Christian do his/her best to imitate.
4. "Blessed" are those who keep the beatitudes as Jesus did.