

# Life Reimagined: Christ's Vision for You

## Jesus Envisions Blessing for His Disciples (Matt. 5:3-12)

### Matthew 5:3-10, ESV

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

4 *"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.*

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

6 *"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.*

7 *"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.*

8 *"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.*

9 *"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.*

10 *"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

### How should we interpret the Greek word for "blessed" (*makarios*)?

- "Be" Attitudes
- "Congratulations to . . ."
- "Happy"
- "Blessed"

### The beatitudes have several features in common with each other:

- They are associated with the \_\_\_\_\_.
- They indicate attitudes that lead to actions.
- They depict \_\_\_\_\_ of fortune.
- They fit well within a \_\_\_\_\_ context.

The Beatitudes provide comfort and assurance to those for whom this world is not their home.

### Descriptions of Disciples

- **The Poor in Spirit** – \_\_\_\_\_ vessels; true \_\_\_\_\_ before God and others
- **Those who Mourn** – \_\_\_\_\_ over sin and its devastating consequences
- **The Meek** – gentleness; not weakness, strength; humility in action

The Beatitudes give definition to Jesus' group; they define their character.

- ***Those who Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness*** – \_\_\_\_\_ good, not evil; God's righteousness, not the world's evil
- ***The Merciful*** – kind and \_\_\_\_\_
- ***The Pure in Heart*** – single-minded \_\_\_\_\_ to Christ
- ***The Peacemakers*** – workers for reconciliation between God and people
- ***Those who are Persecuted for Righteousness' Sake*** – a preemptive statement of the reality that Christ's ambassadors will experience hardship

### Blessings for Disciples

- ***Theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven*** - \_\_\_\_\_
- ***They shall be Comforted*** - from their mourning— \_\_\_\_\_
- ***They shall inherit the earth*** - ultimately in the \_\_\_\_\_
- ***They shall be satisfied*** - with the righteousness they \_\_\_\_\_
- ***They shall receive mercy*** - granted for \_\_\_\_\_
- ***They shall see God*** - now in His \_\_\_\_\_ and ultimately in His full \_\_\_\_\_
- ***They shall be called sons [children] of God*** - highly \_\_\_\_\_
- ***Theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven*** - reiterated for emphasis

The Beatitudes promise a partial fulfillment in the present and a complete fulfillment when Jesus returns.

### Matthew 5:11-12, ESV

*Blessed are you when others 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 they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*

### Reflect & Discuss

- Which of the blessings is especially meaningful to you? Why?
- Which of the traits best describe you?
- Select one or two qualities of needed growth in your life. How will you address these in the days ahead?