

Beatitudes - Part 3

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I. Introduction.

A. The beatitudes have been called the “secrets of attitude” and “Christ’s ideal of character.”

B. Blessed are the poor in spirit.

1. We want a formula for Christianity, but this gets us further from the Person that is the center of it. We have been created for dependence upon God, which opens up all the resources of heaven.

2. God helps those who let Him help.

C. Blessed are the mourners. God uses circumstances to mature character.

D. Blessed are the meek. This is not weakness, but patience in contrast to aggressiveness.

E. Blessed are those who hunger for what is right.

II. Blessed are the merciful for they will receive mercy.

A. The world says this is weak.

B. This is a distinctly Christian view because the Christian has a merciful compassionate God.

C. Mercy puts heart into justice and is given towards those who don’t deserve it.

D. This makes allowances for people, does not judge too fast, gives to others, shares the gospel, shares a word of mercy, etc. (Proverbs 12:25)

III. Blessed are the pure in the heart for they shall see God.

A. Dirt in the heart throws dust in the eyes.

B. Being pure in heart means more than inner cleansing. It is outer too and has to do with purity in motive.

C. We confess until we see the Lord. (1 John 1:9)

D. We see God in Christ. (John 14)

IV. Conclusion: these are ideal attitudes - real character.

Application questions.

1. What does it look like to be merciful?

2. What does it look like to be pure in heart?

3. What can you do to be merciful today?
