

Sermon on the Mount

(Matthew 5-7)

Jesus Christ's radical teachings on:

Believer's conduct/character,

The secret of happiness

Background

- **Birth of Jesus** in Bethlehem (Mathew 1:18-25)
 - Jesus – He shall save his people from their sins (1:21)
- **Baptism of Jesus** (3:16-17)
 - Heavens opened, Spirit of God descended, and God pleased with Jesus
- **Temptation of Jesus** in the wilderness (4:1-11)
 - Jesus victorious by exercising the Word (It is written ...)
- **Ministry of Jesus** (4:23-25, preaching of gospel, healing, many followed)

Mathew 4:23-25

²³ And Jesus went about all Galilee, **teaching** in their synagogues, and **preaching the gospel** of the kingdom, and **healing** all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people. ²⁴ And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them. ²⁵ And there **followed him great multitudes** of people from Galilee, and from Decapolis, and from Jerusalem, and from Judaea, and from beyond Jordan.

Sermon on the Mount

Key Theme: Lord's expectation of his disciples (character & conduct)

Relevance of Sermon on the Mount:

- Believers have a holy calling to be separated and different from this world.
- Sermon on the mount lays down the guidelines for achieving such calling. Obedience will lead to much **spiritual blessing and true inner happiness**.
- These teaching put us on the path to perfection ... high standards point to the need for the enabling grace of God (we cannot do it on our own!).

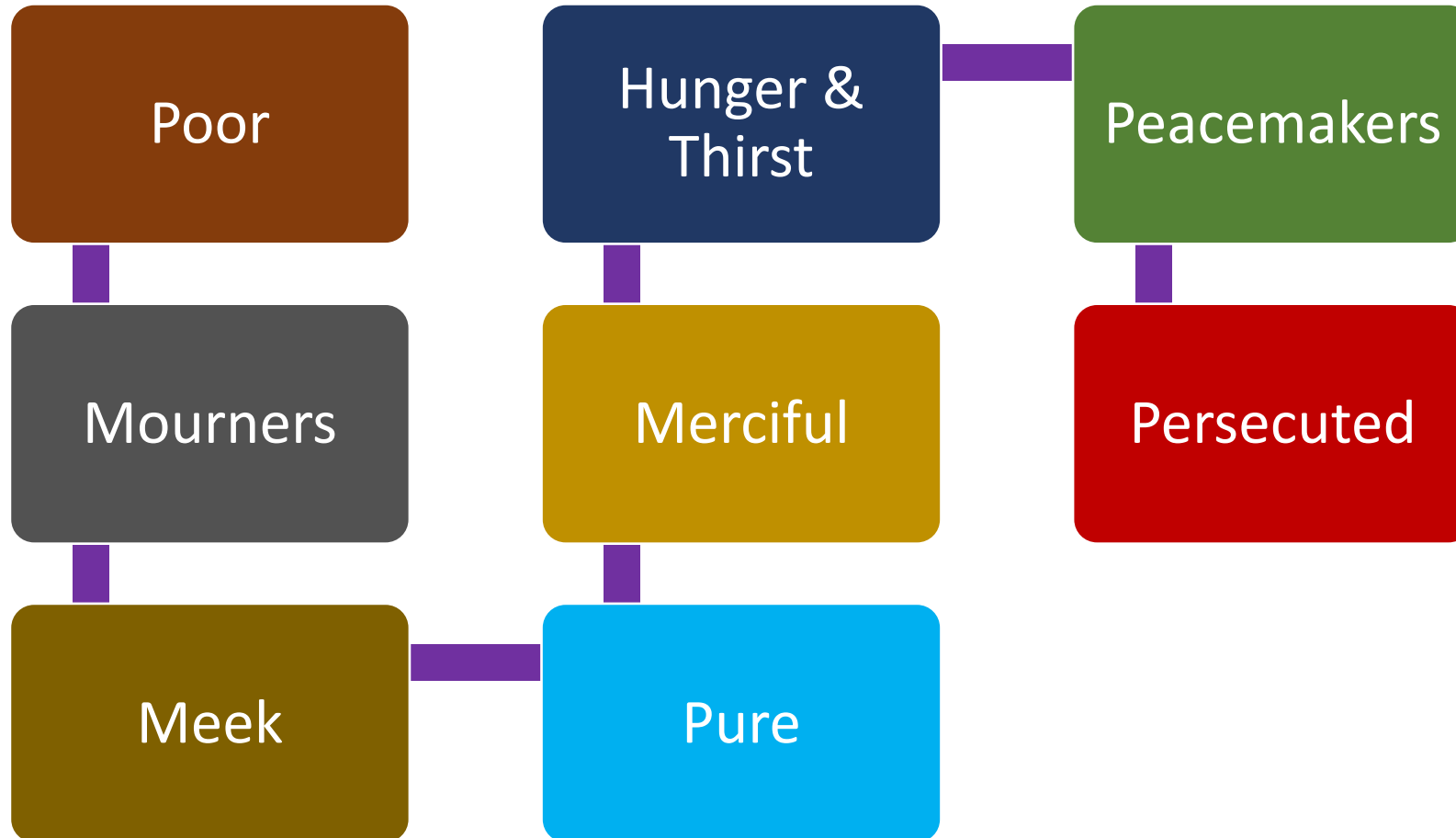
Beatitudes (3-11)

Expectation of Christ from His disciples

&

Blessings Promised

Blessed/Happy are ... Is this the secret of happiness??



#1 Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven (3)

- What type of poverty is being referred here?
- What character attribute is expected?
- What is the blessing promised?

#1 Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven (3)

What type of poverty is being referred here? **Spiritually poor**

What character attribute is expected?

Humility to recognize that we are not spiritually rich or worthy to enter heaven.

A honest self-examination in God's presence will reveal our poverty (Isaiah 6:5)

Blessing promised? Will inherit **Kingdom of Heaven**

#2 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted (3)

What should we mourn for?

How do we mourn?

When does the mourning/sorrows end for believers, unbelievers?

What is the blessing promised?

#2 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted (3)

What should we mourn for? Realization of poverty must lead to mourning.

Mourn (feel intense sorrow and pain) **for personal sins**

Mourning for **sins of the world** will motivate us to do gospel outreach.

How do we mourn? **Repent** for personal sins (godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation, II **Corinthians 7:10**). **Intercede** + gospel outreach for others;

Jesus wept over Jerusalem (Luke 19:41-44)

End of mourning? For believers there will be no tears in heaven (Rev. 7:17);
Unbelievers will weep for all of eternity.

Promised blessing? **Comfort** through forgiveness of sins (Psalms 32:1-3)

#3 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth (5)

- Who are the meek?
- How is meekness related to weakness?
- What is the blessing promised? When will it be realized?

#3 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth (5)

Who are the meek?

- Humble (like Moses, humble despite having authority; Numbers 12:3)
- Meekness of Christ (Mathew 11:29, 21:5; Philippians 2:7, Isaiah 53:7)
- Taught by Paul (Galatians 5:23, Colossians 3:12)

How is meekness related to weakness?

- Meekness does not mean weakness or being afraid or passive
- Meek recognize they are weak and depend on God's grace
- Meek do not retaliate ...response of Jesus (I Peter 2:22-23)

What is the blessing promised? When is it realized?

- Inherit the earth (Psalms 37:11), be leaders (heads and not tails, Deuteronomy 28:13), having nothing yet possessing all things (II Corinthians 6:10)
- Realized: maybe now, but definitely later (Math 19:28, II Timothy 2:12, Revelation 20:4)

#4 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled (6)

- What should we be longing for?
- What do we crave for?
- What is the promised blessing?
- Is it a one-time craving for filling?

#4 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled (6)

What should we be longing for?

Righteousness (right living) and Spiritual blessings

with intense passionate longing (as the deer panteth ... Psalms 42:1)

What do we crave for? (material blessings, power, status, instant gratification, etc.)

What is the promised blessing? **Satisfaction** to those who truly hunger and thirst

(Psalms 37:4, Psalms 107:9, Luke 1:53, Mathew 6:33)

Is it one time hunger/thirst for filling? We should continually hunger & thirst for filling

If we are discontent, it reveals that we are hungry/thirsty for wrong things

#5 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy (7)

- What do we mean by mercy? How is it expressed?
- What is our motivation/inspiration for being merciful?
- What is the blessing promised?

#5 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy

What do we mean by mercy? How is it expressed?

- Reacting to a need with action - Compassion, Kindness, Forgiveness
- To be merciful often requires making a sacrifice

What is our motivation/inspiration for being merciful?

- We are recipients of Lord's rich mercy (Ephesians 2:4)
- Parable of unmerciful servant (Matthew 18:21-35)

What is the blessing promised?

- **Mercy of God** in His dealings with us (Psalms 18:25)

#6 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God (8)

- What is expected of believers?
- What is the blessing promised? How/When do we see God?

#6 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God (8)

What is expected of believers?

- **Pure heart** (Mathew 15:19 ... out of the heart comes impurity)
- Purity - Holiness, Separation from the world, blameless testimony
- David's prayer ... Create in me a clean heart (Psalms 51:10)

What is the blessing promised? How/When do we see God?

Today: Intimate communion, fresh revelations, visions, still small voice

Future: Will see him face to face, faith will give way to sight

- **Psalms 24:3-4** ³ Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? ⁴ He that hath clean hands, and a **pure heart**; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully

#7 Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God

- How do we demonstrate being 'peacemakers'?
- What is the blessing promised?

#7 Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

How do we demonstrate being 'peacemakers'?

- As recipients of God's Peace, we are called to be **peacemakers** and given the Ministry of Reconciliation (II Corinthians 5:17-19)
 - We must show the way for Peace with God, and with one another
 - We must follow peace with all, including home & church (Hebrews 12:14, Romans 12:18)
 - But Peace must not come at the cost of compromising our faith
- He is the prince of peace and peace maker (Isaiah 9:6, Ephesians 2:14-15)
- Is it easy to be peace maker in relationships?

What is the blessing promised? Called **children of God**

#8 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake ... for my sake (10,11): for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

- What are two types of persecutions ?
- What must be our response?
- What is the blessing promised?

#8 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake and for my sake (10,11) for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

What are two types of persecutions ?

- Persecution for **living godly life** (like peer pressure, mockery, ethics) (10)
- Persecution for **gospel** (like persecuted church) (11)
- Not all suffering is persecution; Suffering as a sinner & as a Christian (I Peter 4:15-16)

Right response :

Rejoice (12) (Acts 5:41, I Peter 1:6-8, Hebrews 12:2)

Rejoicing possible when we have faith in God and submit to His plans.

What is the blessing promised?

- Kingdom of Heaven (10), Great reward in heaven (12)

Blessed/Happy are ... The secret of happiness

