



# BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS



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# The Beatitudes (Matt. 5:1-12)

- **The poor in spirit (v. 3)**
  - Those who see their *spiritual destitution*.
  
- **Those who mourn (v. 4)**
  - Those who *truly sorrow* over their sins.
  
- **The meek (v. 5)**
  - Those who are *strong, humble, submissive*.

# The Beatitudes

- **Those who hunger and thirst after righteousness (v. 6)**
  - ▣ An intense desire to *be right* and *do right*.
- **The merciful (7)**
  - ▣ Those who out of gratitude for God's mercy *demonstrate mercy to others*.
- **The pure in heart. (8)**
  - ▣ Those *single-minded*, and *completely devoted* to the Lord Jesus Christ.



*“Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they shall be called  
sons of God.” (v. 9)*

# Peace

- A non-warring condition; a lack of enmity, trouble, discord among citizens or nations; agreement, mutual harmony, accord, unity.
- Between Nations – “The land had **rest 40 years**” (Jud. 3:30, 5:31)
- Between Individuals - **Jacob and Esau**
  - Jacob feared and fled (Gen. 27:41)
  - But when he returned, Esau fell on his neck and kissed him (Gen. 33:4).

# War – A Continual Problem!

- **Physical war**, hatred, strife, and hostility and continual problem for mankind.
- But even more horrible is the **spiritual warfare** that causes the destruction of souls!
  - Isa. 59:1-2 – **Sin separates** from God.
  - Matt. 18:11-12 – “For the **Son of man came to save that which was lost**. How think ye? if any man have a hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray...”

# Jesus Came To Bring Peace

## **The Benediction of Zacharias** (Lk. 1:67-79)

- “And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare His ways; to give to His people the **knowledge of salvation** by the **forgiveness of their sins**, because of the **tender mercy** of our God, with which the sunrise from on high will visit us, to shine upon those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the **way of peace.**”

# Peace Came Through The Cross

- “Being justified by faith we have **peace with God...**” (Rom. 5:1-2).
- This **peace with God** was accomplished in the death of Jesus.
  - ▣ “For while we were yet weak, in due season **Christ died** for the ungodly.” (Rom. 5:6)
  - ▣ “Who his own self **bare our sins in his body upon the tree**, that we, having died unto sins, might live unto righteousness; by whose stripes ye were healed.” (1 Pet. 2:24)



# Peace with God Bring Peace Within

- Feelings of fear, doubt, anxiety, dread, and unhappiness can **disappear** when one is forgiven and enjoys the peace of God.
- **Phil. 4:7** – “And the **peace of God**, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

# Who Are “The Peacemakers?”

## □ Colossians 1:19-23

- “**Peace** through the blood of His cross” (20)
- “In time past...**enemies**” (21)
- “Now **reconciled**” (22)
- “The **hope** of the gospel which you heard” (23)
- “Which was **preached** in all creation under heaven; whereof I Paul was made a **minister**” (23)

# 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

- “For the **word of the cross**... is the power of God” (18)
- “It was God’s good pleasure **through the foolishness of the preaching** to save them that believe” (21)
  - ▣ “Through the foolishness of the **message preached**” (NKJV, NASB)
  - ▣ “The foolishness of **what was preached**” (NIV)

# Romans 10:14-15

- “How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? 15 and how shall they preach, except they be sent? even as it is written, **How beautiful are the feet of them that bring glad tidings of good things!**”
- **“Blessed are the peacemakers.”**

# 1. We Should Be Peacemakers So That We Can Be Like Jesus

- **1 Peter 2:21** – Christ suffered “leaving you an **example**, that ye should follow his steps.”
- **John 13:15** – “For I have given you an **example** that he also should do as I have done to you.”
- **Jesus was passionate about souls!**
  - John 4 – Woman at Samaria
  - John 4:34 – “My meat is to do the will of Him that sent Me and to accomplish His work.”

## 2. We Should Be Peacemakers So That We Can Be Like The Early Church

- **Have we restored N.T. Christianity?**
  - An important goal! An ongoing goal!
  - We must restore the zeal for evangelism as well!
- Notice the **ZEAL** of the early disciples (4:4, 5:42, 8:4, 11:19-21)
- **1 Thessalonians 1:8** – “For from you hath **sounded forth the word of the Lord**, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but **in every place your faith to God-ward is gone forth**; so that we need not to speak anything.”

# 3. We Should Be Peacemakers Because of Our Fearful Responsibility

## □ Ezekiel's Great But Difficult Commission (Ezek. 3)

- "I have made thee *a watchman* over the house of Israel" (v. 17)
- Israel "*will not harken unto thee*" (v. 7).
- "His blood will I require *at thy hand*" (v. 18).

## □ Our Great Commission.

- Matt. 28:18-20 – "**Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations...** teaching them to observe all things... I commanded you..."

## 4. Being A Peacemaker Allows Me Share In The Greatest Of All Endeavors.

- **What would be your “dream job?”**
  - The work is interesting.
  - The work is important/fulfilling.
  - Work with good/quality people.
  - Stay busy (nor boring).
  - Have a good/fair/patient boss.
  - Generous wages with good benefits.



# Being a Peacemaker in Jesus' Kingdom Is The Dream Job of All Time!

- The work is **interesting** (never boring).
- The most **important, fulfilling** work on earth (the salvation of souls).
- Work with the **best folks** on earth (kingdom citizens, the Lord's church).
- **Stay busy** (We never run out of work).
- **Best boss EVER** (the God of Heaven).
- **Wages, Benefits** (Eternal life).

# “For they shall be called sons of God”

- “Sons” are to be **like** their Father, **imitate** their Father, **“look like”** their Father.
- “Love your enemies... that ye may be **sons of your Father** who is in heaven.” (Matt. 5:44-45).
- Our Father desires **“all men to be saved** and come to the knowledge of the truth” (1 Tim. 2:4).
- When we **imitate** that love and that desire, we **“shall be called sons of God.”**