

## The Attitudes to Be for Happiness in All Things

### I. Introduction

- A. Every one of us wants to truly be happy in life. We pursue it in many different ways. We try to acquire the things that will make us happy but then after we get them, happiness seems to go away.
  - 1. Then we have to try to find new things to make us happy.
  - 2. We keep searching but we never seem to find something that makes us happy.
  - 3. True happiness is not found in this world. It is not in doing the things you want. It is not in your enjoyment.
- B. I want you to understand that happiness is based upon your attitude in life.
  - 1. 2 people can work on the same job doing the same things.
  - 2. One can be happy and the other one can be miserable. What is the reason why? It is their attitude and how they approach their job.
  - 3. It is also your attitude and how you approach life that determines whether you going to be happy or sad.
  - 4. It is how you see things in the attitude of your mind that makes a difference in how you experience joy and happiness in life.

### **THE ATTITUDE OF YOUR MIND DETERMINES HOW YOU WILL SEE A HAPPENING IN LIFE AS EITHER HAPPINESS OR SORROW**

- 5. it is so important that we recognize this.  
**Eph 4:21–24 (NIV84) — 21 Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. 22 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; 23 to be made new in the attitude of your minds; 24 and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.**

**1 Th 5:16 (NKJV) — 16 Rejoice always,**

- C. But there is a happiness that can be acquired in this world that will never leave you! It is a happiness that is guaranteed by God.
  - 1. It can only be accomplished our experience by the Holy Spirit that dwells within a committed disciple of Christ!
- D. Today I want to share with you from one of the greatest sermons that was ever spoken by a man. It is a sermon that many preachers have chosen to speak about but this is the first time I've ever spoken on this sermon.
  - 1. I have learned much about it and have much to share with you. I hope you will be blessed by the things that you hear this morning.
- E. It is a sermon that was delivered by Jesus. In this sermon Jesus speaks of how we are happy in situations where one would think there can be no happiness.

1. As we look closely at what Jesus preached about we will see that he says happiness is not found in what you have but it is in what you are!

### **TRUE HAPPINESS IS NOT IN WHAT YOU HAVE BUT IN WHAT YOU ARE**

2. you have been granted by God through your faith in Jesus Christ the authority, the power to be children of God endowed with the Holy Spirit of God to give you victory and comfort in all things.
  3. In this sermon you will see things that you as a normal human being cannot accomplish but again by his spirit you have the ability to experience all that he speaks of.
- F. Jesus will describe some situations that many of us would think we would not find happiness in them, but the way Jesus looks at things is not the way that man looks at them. Therefore, we must have the mind of Christ.
- Is 55:8–9 (NKJV) — 8 “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” says the Lord. 9 “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.**

II. Let's look at the sermon now. Turn to Matthew 5

A. You will see 8 attitudes to be. Verses 3-10

1. Then you will see the situation that occurs as a result of those 8 states of being.
  - a. Verses 11 through 12

B. The 8 attitudes to be in life are

1. **poor in the spirit (v3) theirs **IS** the kingdom of God**
2. mourning over sins effects (v4) ----they **shall** be comforted
3. meek (v5) ----they **shall** inherit the earth
4. hungering and thirsting for righteousness (v6) ---they **shall** be filled
5. merciful (v7) ----they **shall** obtain mercy
6. pure in heart (v8) -----they **shall** see God
7. peacemaker (v9) -----they **shall** be called children of God
8. **being persecuted for righteousness sake (v10) ---theirs **IS** the kingdom of God**

C. **Both the first and the 8th get the promise of the kingdom of heaven.**

1. Verse 11 is different it says, "Blessed are you". It is an expansion of verse 10 and the results are in verse 12.

D. You will see that God gives you something now and promises blessings shall come to you because of it.

1. Here he says, "theirs **IS** the kingdom of heaven."
  - a. Not will be
  - b. not there shall be

**THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS NOW MANIFEST!  
YOU HAVE ALREADY BEEN GIVEN IT AS A CHILD OF GOD  
NOW EXPERIENCE IT AS A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST!**

2. In the middle, you see conditions that are going to occur. God is guaranteeing these conditions even in the midst of negative situations.
3. You must start to see yourself as a citizen of heaven now. Not a citizen of this world!
4. Your blessings are contingent upon how you view things.

**YOUR BLESSINGS ARE CONTINGENT UPON YOUR ATTITUDE.  
THAT IS THE REASON THESE ARE CALLED THE BEATITUDES!**

III. **Mt 5:1–12 (NKJV) — 1 And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. 2 Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying:**

- A. First, let's observe who is he speaking to? Jesus is speaking to his disciples. These are the ones that are taught the word of God.
  1. This is important for Guiding Light people to understand because you are truly disciples. You are taught the word of God.
  2. A disciple is a student. Every one of you are students!
  3. Every now and then I do it exaltation of the word of God to you but the majority of the time you are being taught!
- B. He pronounced these blessings to his disciples but we learn from **Mt 7:28 (NKJV) — 28 And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching,**

1. This lets us know that there are plenty of people who will be hearing the teaching of God but few who will become disciples. This word was specifically spoken to his disciples.
  - a. this also lets us know there were concentric circles of people who listen to Christ.
    - (1) there are first the multitudes
    - (2) then there are the crowds
    - (3) then there are the disciples. These include the women.
    - (4) then there are the apostles. These are the 12
    - (5) then there were the 3. Peter, James and John
    - (6) then there was John
  - b. how close do you want to be to Jesus?

**HOW CLOSE DO YOU WANT TO BE TO JESUS?**

2. This is also true with many churches. Some teach for the multitudes and the crowds. That is, they preach a message that will reach everyone.
  - a. But as for me, I preach a message to those who are seeking to be disciples of Christ.
  - b. But also recognize, there are many people who will hear the teaching to the disciples and they themselves will desire more than to be at a distance and choose to come to know Christ on a personal level and not just at a distance.

- c. That is why I am trying to teach you the members of this church to hear the voice of God.
  - d. I don't want you to just know of him. I want you to know him and his ways. That comes from being close to him.
- C. Let us look at the first thing he teaches them.

#### IV. The first attitude to be 3 **"Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

- A. Let us look at the word blessed. From here is where we get the meaning of happy.
- 1. it also means prosperous!
    - a. It means prosperity in physical and spiritual things
  - 2. It means favor from on high.
  - 3. It is a joyful condition
  - 4. it is a condition in this case that is declared by God. This makes it the highest guarantee!
- B. Knows the 2nd word is, "are". This is not those who will be or what they have it is those that are poor in the spirit. This is a present state condition.
- 1. This means everyone of you that may be feeling broken, tired and weary. Those of you that want to give up.
  - 2. Personal Note:  
When I was willing to give up that's when God stepped up.
- The same is true for you if you're willing to give up the battle fighting for yourself, if you're willing to let the Lord have your life by you presenting yourself as a living sacrifice then you will experience the true happiness of the Lord with the recognition that the kingdom of heaven is yours!
- C. Now, who does he declare prosperous and happy? "Blessed are the poor in spirit!"
- 1. This is an unusual statement. He is declaring those poor to be prosperous. Poor in what? *Poor in spirit.*
  - 2. This is weird because it means when you don't have something you have everything! The kingdom of heaven is everything!
- D. What this poor in spirit mean? Simply, from the teaching you have already heard it is an individual that has denied himself.
- 1. A person who has recognized his spiritual poverty and that he has no righteousness in himself. Such a person falls at the feet of Jesus and declares his spiritual poverty and therefore makes his appeal to God.

#### **TO SAVE YOUR LIFE YOU MUST LOSE IT**

- 2. The poor in spirit is a person that does not exalt himself in his own way of thinking but recognizes his emptiness before God.
- 3. This is a person that has had self confrontation that has won the victory over self by submission to Christ.

4. **Is 57:15 (NKJV) — 15 For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: “I dwell in the high and holy place, With him who has a contrite and humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the humble, And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.**
  5. Until we are emptied of self we cannot be filled with God.
  - E. What does God do that they can be happy even though they are broken? He declares their right is to the kingdom of heaven.
    1. **Ps 34:18 (NKJV) — 18 The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart, And saves such as have a contrite spirit.**
    2. **Ps 51:17 (NKJV) — 17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart— These, O God, You will not despise.**
  - F. It is important for you to realize no prideful people can enter the kingdom of God. You must be humble!
    1. You must learn to deny yourself!
    2. **Mt 18:3 (NKJV) — 3 and said, “Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.**
- V. The **2<sup>nd</sup> attitude to be** of people he declares a blessed are... **Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted.**
- A. Do we consider it blessed when we are mourning? No we consider that a sad state. But we can see that even when we are mourning we can be happy because it is in that state that we realize it is God who will comfort us!
    1. **2 Co 1:3–4 (NKJV) — 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.**
  - B. Now let me ask you another question,  
**WHAT WOULD YOU PREFER,  
 TO NEVER HAVE SORROW AND MOURNING OR  
 TO HAVE SORROW AND MOURNING  
 AND BE COMFORTED BY GOD?**
  - C. Is there any way we can escape sorrow and times of mourning in this earth?
    1. **1 Jn 5:19 (NKJV) — 19 We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.**
    2. **1 Jn 5:19 (NKJV) — 19 We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.**
- VI. Now, the **3<sup>rd</sup> attitude to be** of people that are declared happy...**5 Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.**

- A. What does meek mean?
1. **Mt 11:29 (NKJV) — 29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am **gentle** and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.**
  2. **Mt 11:29 (KJV 1900) — 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am **meek** and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.**
- B. What this Jesus declare that they shall acquire? **For they shall inherit the earth.**
1. It is not the bold and the aggressive that will acquire the material wealth of the world, it is those of you who have a spirit of gentleness that the Lord says you will inherit the earth.
  2. You don't have to be hard spoken to be respected. Learn gentleness and God will see to it that material wealth blessings will come to you.
- C.
- D. I know it appears that those who are pursuing things on the earth right now seem to get the things on the earth. But the word of God says it is appointed unto man once to die and then after he is dead he will leave everything here! What does it profit a man to gain the whole world and then to lose is only soul?
- E. The world tells you to be tough, but after you have fought for things in the world you cannot keep them. Jesus says his ways are not our ways. To inherit the earth you must learn gentleness with all people.
- F. There are other places where God promises that gentleness and meekness have great reward.
1. **Ps 37:11 (NKJV) — 11 But the meek shall inherit the earth, And shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.**
- VII. Let us look now at the **4th Attitude to be ...6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled.**
- A. This is a state of completeness. A state a fullness. A state of abundance.
  - B. Over the ones that she'll find themselves blessed to overflowing amount? **those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,**
  - C. this means who have a spirit that wants things to be done just and right. You don't care who the individual is even if it is your enemy you want justice to be done. Righteousness is so important to you that it is just like your hunger and your thirst.
- MLK SAID AN INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS A THREAT TO JUSTICE EVERYWHERE**
- D. Jesus says you shall be filled. That means an abundance of happiness when you desire righteousness!
- VIII. Then, he goes on to say, for the **5th Attitude to be 7 Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy.**
- A. This is so important!
- AS YOU TREAT OTHERS WILL BE THE WAY THAT GOD WILL TREAT YOU!  
HOW ARE YOU TREATING YOUR HATERS?**

- B. What if you don't have mercy and understanding of others?  
**Mt 18:21–35 (NKJV) — 21 Then Peter came to Him and said, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?” 22 Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven. 23 Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. 24 And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. 25 But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. 26 The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, ‘Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ 27 Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. 28 “But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, ‘Pay me what you owe!’ 29 So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ 30 And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. 31 So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. 32 Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. 33 Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?’ 34 And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. 35 “So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.”**

IX. Now the **6th Attitude to be**. 8 **Blessed are** the **pure in heart**, For they shall see God.

- A. This speaks to the inward heart. You can't just be faking church. It must be real in you.

**Jn 14:21 (NKJV) — 21 He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.”**

- B. He says pure in heart. This is the inward person that only you know about.

#### **HOW PURE IS YOUR HEART?**

X. The **7th Attitude to be** 9 **Blessed are** the **peacemakers**, For they shall be called sons of God.

- A. **Ro 12:18 (NKJV) — 18 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.**

- B. **Jn 14:27 (NKJV) — 27 Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.**

**ARE YOU A PEACE MAKER OR TROUBLE MAKER & GOSSIP?  
WATCH YO MOUTH**

- XI. Now when we look back we see that we have 8 states of being. Look at each verse from the 3rd to the 10th. Each one of those says, "Blessed are". Again showing you that this is a state of being. But the next category is not a state of being the next is a state of being done to. Look now and see the differences.
- A. this next group represents what will happen to you when you are truly a child of God doing the will of God.
- B. It represents to reestablish certainty of eternal rewards. But these rewards do not come without persecutions!
- C. Let us read it now...
- XII. **The 8<sup>th</sup> Attitude to be 10 **Blessed are** those who are **persecuted for righteousness' sake**, **For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.****
- A. Notice he says, "for theirs is the kingdom of heaven". This is the same thing he said in verse 3.
1. This means when you poor in spirit you have opened the door to eternity in heaven with Christ and as you grow and mature from one state to the other you have certain confidences that you can have no matter what evil may befall you. You can be confident that God is going to work it out for you.
  2. Then after you even struggle no man can take away the guarantee of the kingdom of heaven from you. Therefore he tells us to stand strong and **Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake...**  
**Ro 8:18 (NKJV) — 18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.**
- B. Perhaps you might say I don't want to be persecuted but I need to let you know you will experience persecution if you are truly a child of God. You're not of this world. You are alien to this world in this world hates you just like it hated Jesus and killed him. There is no way you can escape persecution.
- C. **2 Ti 3:12 (NKJV) — 12 Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.**
- D. **Ac 14:22 (NKJV) — 22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, "We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God."**
- E. Persecution will come, should you shy away from it?  
**Jas 1:2-4 (NKJV) — 2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. 4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.**



- F. Now the 11 verse continues with a description of the persecution you will experience and the promise of the joy you will receive as a result of it
- XIII. **11 “Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. 12 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.**
- A. Therefore, now you can see that your citizenship is in heaven! No matter what this world may try to do to you, you have the promises of God that you can be happy on all occasions because this world has no control over you.
- B. You need to learn to get the right attitude about things.
- XIV. Now, none of these things are attainable by yourself about the action of your flesh. Here's how Paul tells us these things are to be achieved!
- Ga 5:16–17 (NKJV) — 16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.**

**Ga 5:22–25 (NKJV) — 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. 24 And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.**