



KINGDOM CHARACTER

“BLESSED ARE THE SPIRITUALLY BANKRUPT”

MATTHEW 5:3

- I. INTRODUCTION: HAPPY IS THE HOLY HEART...(JN. 15:11)...BLESSINGS OF REPENTANCE (Mt. 4:17)
- A. Hearts blessed with vision (Prov. 29:18)...“happy is he”
 - 1. See God as perfectly holy (Mt. 5:48)
 - 2. See _____ as wretchedly sinful, hopeless, IN LIGHT OF His holiness (Ro. 7:24)
 - B. Hearts blessed with passion (2 Cor. 5:14)
 - 1. Daily anointed with fresh gracious enabling love (Ro. 5:5)
 - 2. _____ touched personally by God’s merciful embracing words (I Thes. 4:9)
 - 3. Daily aflame with Jesus’ love (I Pe. 4:8; Ps. 18:28; Prov. 20:27)...Mt. 3:11
 - C. Hearts blessed with a mission driving their lives daily (Mt. 4:19, 28:18-20)
 - 1. Motivated to _____ (Acts 1:8) in the power of His love
 - 2. Motivated to serve sacrificially, pouring out His love (Ro. 12:1-2)
 - 3. Motivated to be discipled and to disciple, hungering in love (2 Tim. 2:2)
 - a. Having _____ truly of the Bread of life (I Pe. 2:2)
 - b. Having drunk deeply at the River/Rock of living waters (Ps. 1; Jn. 4, 7)
 - 4. Motivated to have a sole purpose in life...“Well done” (Mt. 25:21)
 - a. As a faithful, good servant...living to please his Master/Lord
 - b. As a _____ empowered by gratitude daily (Col. 2:6-7)
- II. INSTRUCTION: “BLESSED ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT” ...HOW YOU BECOME A TRUE DISCIPLE (4:19)
- A. “Blessed are”...spiritual joy...Jesus’ joy daily in the depths of the soul (Jn. 17:13) “my joy fulfilled in themselves”
 - 1. Joy no man can take away (Jn. 16:24)...internal, eternal
 - 2. Joy rising _____ all circumstances of life’s trials (Isa. 40:41; Jas. 1:2, 12)
 - a. Granting perfect peace (Isa. 26:3)...deep peace (Isa. 48:18)
 - b. Guarding the heart and _____ (Phil. 4:6-7) with His love
 - 3. “Blessed” is the opposite of the biblical word “woe”, i.e. God eliminates our woes (damnation, despair) and replaces it with His gift of joy (Jesus)
 - B. “The poor in spirit”...spiritual poverty, not material
 - 1. Broken-hearted humility that creates teach-ability (I Pe. 5:5-7), total dependency on grace (Eph. 2:8-9)
 - 2. Seekers after _____ (Jn. 4:24)...as common humble people sought Him out...

- a. Understanding people who love you, tell you the truth (Jn. 3:16)
 - b. Faithful are the wounds of a friend (Prov. 27:6)
3. Coming to the cross understanding the sinfulness of sin (Prov. 14:6)
- a. ____ sin put Him on the cross (2 Cor. 5:21)...I am a spiritual beggar
 - b. My soul needs a personal Savior daily, eternally (Gal. 2:20; 6:14)
 - c. My knees bow at the foot of the cross, to a low door where I crawl through in the spirit of repentance (2 Cor. 7:10), emptying me of self, seeking God's mercy to fill me with His thoughts and desires (2 Cor. 10:5)
 - d. My soul seeing my spiritual poverty in _____ to His eternal riches (Eph. 1)
4. This was a radical calling to His Jewish disciples, going against the grain of the religion of Judaism...a new standard...a holy "impossible" standard (Heb. 12:14)
- a. Taught they had no sin to confess (3:9) as their _____ was an abomination to a holy God (Prov. 16:5; Lk. 18:9-14)
 - b. Taught their righteousness was due to being Jewish (Abraham's child) – Mt. 3:9
- C. "For theirs (alone) is (daily) the kingdom of heaven" ...(and its blessings abundant)
- 1. Spiritual blessings of flowing graces and tender mercies (Heb. 4:12, 16)
 - 2. Spiritual protection daily (Ps. 91:1, 37:25) meeting ____ needs (Phil. 4:19)
 - 3. Spiritual food for those trembling at His Word (Isa. 66:2)
 - a. Working out salvation daily in diligent disciples (Phil. 2:12-16)
 - b. Knowing God is very close to the broken-hearted (34:18) – contrite spirit
 - c. Experiencing _____ daily through confession of sin (Ps. 51:17)
 - i. That cleanses the soul with holy joy (2 Cor. 7:1)
 - ii. That reminds us we are children of the King (Heb. 12:28-9)
 - iii. That lifts us up to _____ service (Jas. 4:10; Jn. 15:16)
 - a) Remember Jacob's wrestling match and consequent blessing from God Himself (Gen. 32:29)
 - b) Remember when God blessed "woeful" Isaiah, sending him out as His holy servant-messenger in Isa. 6:5ff.
 - c) Remember how powerfully God used humble Gideon in Judges 6:15, as a mighty man of valor; supernatural victory over the Midianites due to utter dependency
 - d) Remember how God blessed Moses' humility after his choosing to forsake Pharaoh's riches (Exodus 3:11)
 - 4. Spiritual joint heirs with Jesus! (Ro. 8)
 - a. Seated _____ Him in the heavenlies (Eph. 2)
 - b. Sanctified eternally (Heb. 2:11; 10:10, 14) as His brethren!

- III. INSIGHT: HOW DO WE STAY POOR IN SPIRIT? (2 COR. 13:5)...
- A. Feed your soul _____ in the morning with the manna of Jesus' grace (Ps. 63:1; 2 Pe. 3:18)
 - B. Meditate daily and absorb His glorious grace (Josh. 1:8-9; 2 Cor. 3:18)...good-better-best...
 - C. Memorize consistently scriptures that kill self, crippling vulnerabilities (Ps. 119:11; 131:2)
 - 1. Gal. 2:20; 6:14..._____ your flesh as you die daily to self (I Cor. 15:31)
 - 2. Know well your vulnerabilities and put on armor accordingly...
 - a. Ask your spouse, best friend...we need each other, loving accountability
 - b. Eph. 6:10 ff.
 - D. Be deeply satisfied with His loving tender graces of mercy (Ps. 17:15)
 - 1. _____ to be content (Phil. 4:1, 11) as His dearly beloved child
 - 2. Deepen your prayer life consistently (Jas. 5:16; Ps. 42:7)
 - 3. Refuse to murmur knowing it's sinful (Phil. 2:14)
 - 4. Be thankful daily in conscious remembrances (I Sam. 12:24)
 - a. Col. 2:6-7...acid test of true discipleship
 - b. Heb. 13:15...sacrificial praises even when you don't " _____ " grateful
 - c. Keep a daily journal of reflections and praises reminding SELF that God is SO very good to you daily! (Ps. 103:1-2)
 - d. Set measurable goals for personal growth and diligent disciplines
 - i. Heb. 11:6
 - ii. 2 Peter 3:14...blameless
 - iii. Josh. 22:5
 - iv. Ps. 77:6
 - v. Prov. 21:5