



KINGDOM CHARACTER

“BLESSED ARE THE BROKEN-HEARTED”

MATTHEW 5:4

- I. INTRODUCTION: CONTEXT... FLOW OF ATTITUDES IN THE BEATITUDES...(Mt. 4:19)
 - A. Christ teaching His _____ disciples of kingdom character (Jn. 8:31-32)
 - B. Christ’s radical calling to true faith in Him the True Vine (Jn. 15)

- II. INSTRUCTION: THE BLESSING TO THOSE THAT MOURN OVER SIN (MT. 5:4)...HOLY COMFORT!
 - A. Mourning over life’s issues caused by sin; easier for the poor in spirit...5:3
 1. Knowing where to find the promised comfort (v1-2)
 - a. Insatiable appetite for the living water brooks of blessing (63:1-2)
 - b. Insight where to _____ help as we have tasted of His grace (I Pe. 2:2)
 - i. Passion to pursue God _____...(Heb. 12:1-2)
 - ii. Knowing that nearness is likeness (Ro. 8:28-29)
 - iii. Practicing His presence, enjoying intimacy (Ps. 16:11)
 2. As the world _____ our faith and our God in days of difficulty as His beloved
 3. Remembering God’s faithfulness demonstrated through His people and the encouragement they give each other (v4)
 - a. Ps. 46:1, 10
 - b. Heb. 10:24-25
 4. Having tasted abundantly in past trials of the holy hope of sustaining _____ (v5)
 - a. Heb. 6:19
 - b. Col. 1:27
 - c. Eccles. 3:11
 5. Knowing well experientially that deep trials develop deep faith (v7)
 - a. Deeper _____ lives (Jas. 5:16)
 - b. Deeper devotional times of meditation (Josh. 1:8-9)
 - i. Seeing God work exceedingly (Eph. 3:20)
 - ii. Sensing His presence wherever we go, as He _____ us into spiritual prosperity and treasures of darkness (Isa. 45:3), and into the hidden riches of grace we never knew existed!
 - c. Deep cries to counter our sin of unbelief (Ps. 42; Mk. 9:23-24)
 6. Knowing that our sins at times bear serious consequences even after forgiven
 - a. As we reap what we sow (Gal. 6:7)...cf. 2 Sam. 12:5-6

- b. Remember well David's consequences of _____ with Bathsheba...4-fold
 - i. His baby born of Bathsheba died
 - ii. His daughter Tamar was violated
 - iii. His son Amnon was slain
 - iv. His son Absalom conspired with David's best friend Ahithophel to take over the kingdom, and was consequently killed
- B. Mourning with a broken heart and contriteness brings new life to the soul (Ps. 32)
1. There's only one sorrow that breeds new life..._____ (2 Cor. 7:10)
 2. The spiritual beggar who is poor in spirit knows he's bankrupt spiritually, and has no problem with confessing sin to a loving God of tender mercies (Ps. 51)
 - a. Mourning is deep inner agony for failing to keep God's standards
 - i. That leads to bountiful blessings from God (Ps. 32:1-2)
 - ii. That _____ the soul of sin's roaring convictions (32:3-4)
 - a) Which convictions prevent sleep at night
 - b) Which convictions kill joy and peace (Ps. 51)
 - iii. That brings godly people to a _____ throne (32:6; Heb. 4:16)
 - iv. That hides our souls in a cleft in the Rock (32:7)
 - a) Putting new songs into the soul...Selah!
 - b) Putting new meaning into old songs sung carelessly
 - c) Putting shouts of _____ into the upright heart (v11)
 - i) Making us glad in the Lord
 - ii) As we dwell in the secret place (91:1)
 - iii) As we learn to count our days (90:12)
 - a. To live more _____
 - b. To hate sin much more
 - b. Mourning fosters total transparency with a God we can trust (Ps. 51)
 - i. Knowing He's most merciful to the broken hearted (v1, 17)
 - ii. Knowing he forgives and _____ (v2-4, 9)
 - iii. Knowing He understands the roots of sin (v5)
 - iv. Knowing His powerful _____ for sin (v6-7, 10) – Great Physician
 - v. Knowing joy awaits the repentant heart (v8, 12)
 - vi. Knowing ministry is empowered (v13-15)
 - vii. Knowing God is love (v18-19)...cf. I Jn. 1:9; 4:1-21
 - viii. Knowing forgiveness brings healing (Jas. 4:8-10)

III. INSIGHT: BROKENNESS AND UNDERSTANDING JESUS' CROSS AND OURS...(GAL. 2:20; 6:14)

A. Thoughts for reflection and application (Ps. 51)

1. Brokenness proves salvation as conviction of sin must precede and follow conversion, as the work of the Holy Spirit; BLESSED ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT; the verb tense for mourning in Mt. 5:4 is a participle...ongoing _____ mourning and the consequent repentance proves salvation's fruit (2 Cor. 7:10)
2. Jesus' brokenness...His process of humility (Phil. 2:5-8)...
 - a. Stooping from deity (heaven) to humanity (manger)...2:6; Heb. 2:14
 - b. Coming as a Servant-Man of no reputation (v7)...veiling His deity
 - c. Humbling Himself to death _____ (v8a)
 - d. Agonizing "even" to the cruel death of the cross as a criminal (8b)
 - e. Transacting grace and mercy by giving us His righteousness (gift) and taking our sinfulness onto His holy forgiving shoulders (2 Cor. 5:21)
3. Our brokenness in _____ life and its decisions...(Phil. 2:9-16)
 - a. Wherefore beloved working out obedience with fear, trembling
 - i. As His mind empowers us through repentance (2:5)
 - ii. As we fully grasp and apply Luke 12:48 and Gal. 6:7
 - b. For it is God giving you the will to do this daily to please Him (v13)
 - i. Without _____ (v14); willing to be nothing, to do anything to advance His holy kingdom... how do you handle criticism?!
 - ii. As blameless, harmless servants shining as His lights (v15)
 - iii. Witnessing out of His empowerment (v16; Acts 1:8; Mt. 5:16)

B. Tests of brokenness (2 Cor. 13:5)...think on Job's self proclamation of his righteousness...it's quite another matter when God declares us righteous!

1. When _____ do not understand me, I accept their confusion (Jesus did) – Jn. 7:5
2. When another is preferred over me, I accept this choice (Barabbas) – Lk. 23:18
3. When unjustly treated, or falsely accused, I accept it without bitterness or vindication, as Jesus "held His peace" (Mt. 27:31); as I choose to be godly rather than "right" or to have "my rights"
4. When others take _____ advantage of me, I accept joyfully the spoiling of my goods (Mt. 27:28, 35)
5. When people do not deserve forgiveness, I give it _____ in love (Lk. 23:34), as a peacemaker
6. When people expect the "impossible" of me, I accept the challenge without self pity (Lk. 22:19; Phil. 4:13)...stretching experiences...out of comfort zone...