



KINGDOM CHARACTER

“HAPPY ARE THE HOLY”

MATTHEW 5:8

I. CONTEXT: BLESSED ARE THE PURE IN HEART, FOR THEY SHALL SEE GOD...

- A. Israel was anything but blessed, full of guilty anxieties...(11:28-30)
1. Because they were _____ in their self righteous hearts...(5:20)
 2. Because they hadn't seen or heard from God in 400 years...
 - a. Killing His holy prophets...limiting His blessings (78:41-42)
 - b. _____ His holy words (106:34)
 - c. Forgetting His miraculous works (106:13a)...and Him! (106:21)
 - d. Waiting not for His holy counsel (106:13b)
 - e. Writing their own “bible”, the Talmud (2 Cor. 11:3-4)
 - f. Pacifying their killed consciences with _____ traditions (15:6)
 - g. Robbing God of His glory and deserved love gifts (Malachi 3:8)
 - h. Counterfeiting religious standards of externals (Mt. 23:27)...“tombs”
- B. So God graciously fulfills His holy promises via sending John the Baptist (Ch. 3)
1. Should have been a ready audience... “ears to hear”
 - a. Seeking to _____ their burdens of sin (Mt. 3:2)
 - b. Aching for forgiveness (Ps. 32:2)
 - c. Crying for the Savior, who they believed was coming (Isa. 9:6; 11:2)
 2. Should have been Nicodemus-like (Jn. 3:1-3)
 - a. Remnant of integrity, as Jesus answered his question before he asked!
 - b. _____ after truth (Ps. 51:6), seeking after eternal life (Lk. 10:25)
 - c. Believing Isaiah 35...signs validating messenger from God (Jn. 3:2)
 - d. Expecting the blessings of the kingdom promised in the OT (Num. 23:19)
 - i. Offered by John the Baptist (Mt. 3:2)
 - ii. Offered by Jesus (4:17, 19)

II. CONTENT: “O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness” (Ps. 96:9)...pure hearts...

- A. What does it mean to be _____ in heart (I Cor. 2:10, 13)
1. Desiring to personally know and worship the holy God of heaven (Ps. 24:1-5)
 - a. How do I ascend into His holy hill? (Mt. 5:3-6)...Jesus' sermon on the mountain!
 - i. Through spiritual brokenness, mourning over _____
 - ii. Through repentance and contriteness of heart...
 - iii. Through hungering for righteousness...being filled with Spirit
 - iv. Through meekness of humility...following Him (Mt. 4:19)

- b. How do I stand in His holy place?
 - i. By being a _____ of the Word, thus keeping my heart with all diligence (Heb. 11:1; Prov. 4:23)
 - ii. By maintaining _____ disciplines of fellowship with Him, flowing from His gift of righteousness and salvation (Heb. 4:12, 16)
- 2. Delighting in loving obedience flowing from the righteousness of faith (Ro. 1:5)
 - a. Thinking _____ thoughts with Christ's mind (Prov. 23:7)
 - b. Using the weapons of His holy wisdom (2 Cor. 10:3-5)
 - c. Trusting His enabling graces of goodness (Ps. 51:10; 73:1; 119:32)
 - d. Examining yourself daily through the Word (Ps. 19:14; 26:2; 119:23-24)
 - e. Seeking God's kingdom will (Mt. 6:33; Ps. 27:8)
 - f. Anchoring steadfastly to _____ truths for decisions (Ps. 57:7; Heb. 6:19)
- 3. Application...degrees of purity in heart...
 - a. Positional purity...how God sees a saint daily...
 - i. We have the eternal, internal imputed purity of Jesus (Heb. 10:10)
 - ii. We possess the indescribable gift of His righteousness (2 Co. 5:21)
 - iii. We are guaranteed to be just like Jesus (I Jn. 3:3; Ro. 8:29)
 - b. Practical purity...what we strive for daily (I Tim. 4:8; Heb. 12:14)
 - i. Putting _____ the filth of sin (2 Cor. 7:1; 1 Jn. 1:7)
 - ii. Putting _____ the armor of God daily (Jn. 15:3; Eph. 6:10ff)
 - a) Which is the character of the kingdom and Christ
 - b) Confessing when we fail to do so (I Jn. 1:9)
- B. What are God's precious promises for the pure in heart? (Ps. 91:1)
 - 1. We will see God daily...future participle verb tense...
 - a. He'll always be revealing Himself to us...(Ps. 119:18)
 - i. In new ways of enablement and encouragement (Phil. 4:13)
 - ii. In the paths of _____ life (Ps. 16:11)
 - a) As He intersects our lives thru divine appointments
 - b) As He connects the "dots" (Acts 17:28)
 - c) As He shows us His holy glory (Exodus 33:18)
 - b. He'll answer prayers exceeding abundantly (Eph. 3:20)
 - i. _____ will be done (Ps. 12:6-7; Jn. 14:13-14)...trusting His Word
 - ii. As we persist (Mt. 7:7)...believing daily (21:22)
 - iii. As we rest by faith in His holy graces of goodness (Ps. 46:1, 10)
 - iv. As we God consciously _____ (Ps. 55:17; I Thes. 5:17)
 - 2. We will see God eternally (I Jn. 3:2-3)...heaven is our destination and motivation
 - a. Motivating sacrificial service that's _____ and acceptable (Heb. 12:28-29)
 - b. Motivating us to boast only in His glory, and our weaknesses (Gal. 6:14)