

Sermon on the Mount Pt. 3  
The “Be” Attitudes  
Matthew 5:7-9

**I. Blessed are the Merciful (verse 7)**

- The words Mercy, Merciful, Forgive, and Forgiveness are used a total of 379 times throughout scripture
- As we think about this word Merciful we could break this passage down into two basic areas that are applicable to Mercy.
  - Mercy is the act of forgiving someone when they have wronged you.
    - Lamentations 3:22-23 “It is of the Lord’s mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not, they are new every morning: great is Thy faithfulness.”
    - Ephesians 2:4-5, Matthew 6:12, Matthew 18:21-35
    - In short I believe God is more willing to extend more mercy towards us than we are to each other.
    - Matthew 6:14-15 I can forgive much because I have been forgiven of much!
  - Mercy is the act of showing compassion to a person when they are in need.
    - This is more than just agreeing intellectually that someone has a need and verbalizing it.
    - This act of mercy is actually taking that which the Lord has blessed us with and using it to meet the needs of those. There should be times when meeting that need actually cost us something!
    - Examples in the scriptures are numerous of Jesus’ merciful actions towards people.
      - Any of the miracles of healing that Jesus performed towards a person was an act of mercy
      - The many times when Jesus simply met the basic physical needs of the people were acts of mercy
      - Several times we see Jesus look out of crowds of people and begin to weep.
      - Read Acts 20:35, I John 3:17, and James 2:15-16
  - What do we receive when we show Mercy to others? We receive Mercy ourselves.

**II. Blessed are the pure in heart (verse 8)**

- As we approach the topic of the heart we realize the bible has much to say about the heart.
  - The heart is more than just a physical muscle that pumps oxygenated blood through your body!
  - The Holman Bible Dictionary refers to the heart as the seat of one’s physical, mental, and spiritual life!
  - Read Luke 6:45
- As we think about this phrase “pure in heart” it is important to remember the condition of a man’s heart apart from Jesus
  - Jeremiah 17:9
  - They only way a person can have a pure heart is through the process of “regeneration” or being born again.
    - See John 3:1-16
- So what does it mean to be “pure in heart”
  - In the Greek language the concept of “pure in heart” brought the concept of straightness, honesty, and clarity.
  - A clean heart is one that is cleaned, cleansed, purged, and forgiven!
  - The reality is this we live in a sinful, wicked, fallen world, and we literally much ask God “create in me a clean heart, O God” Psalm 51:10-12
- The pure in heart will “See God” This concept is two fold
  - Present
    - Presently the “pure in heart” see God by Faith
    - The “pure in heart” endure by faith as already seeing Him who is invisible” Hebrews 11:27
  - Eternally
    - Those who are “pure in heart” will one day see God face to face
    - I John 3:2 “we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is”
    - Revelation 22:4 “they shall see His face; and His name shall be in their foreheads.

### III. Blessed are the peacemakers (verse 9)

- Peacemaker- A peacemaker is one who desires to bring men together and make peace between men and God.
- A peacemaker will desire the following:
  - They will work to solve disputes and resolve problems
  - They strive hard to eliminate strife and divisions between people
  - They desire to tame tongues and to restore and build right relationships
  - Being a peacemaker can be a tough and challenging “Be-Attitude” to accomplish
- Who is a peacemaker?
  - A peacemaker is one who has made peace with God personally
    - In order for someone to be a true peacemaker they must have first made peace with God by accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of their lives.
    - This type of person strives to live a life that is at peace with God. They are humble and teachable
    - Romans 5:1, John 14:27 and Ephesians 2:14-17
  - A peacemaker is one who strives to make peace **WITHIN** others.
    - In short a peacemaker is concerned for those who stand before God unjustified because they have not accepted the finished works of Jesus on the cross
    - The peacemaker strives to lead those in their sphere of influence to the life changing acceptance of Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior.
    - This is great commission living (Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 1:8). Striving to bring spiritual rest and peace in the lost
  - A peacemaker is one who strives to bring peace **BETWEEN** others.
    - The bottom line is this world has its troublemakers.
    - Basically every organization has its troublemakers who disrupt and cause trouble. The church is not exempt from this statement either.
    - Where there are trouble makers there will be bitterness, strife, grumbling, complaining, gossip, back stabbing, and ultimately division. If that is in the church than there is division in the body!
    - This is where it gets tough because a peacemaker can’t stand this type of childish behavior and their desire is to seek reconciliation within the body.
- The great reward of being a peacemaker
  - The peacemaker is called a child of God!
  - What a great honor to be known as a true child of God.
    - The great desire of God is that man would be reconciled to God through His Son Jesus Christ.
    - The heart of a peacemaker seeks the same that is so important to God which is reconciliation and living in peace within us and with others!