

Matthew 5:4

Outline

The Beatitudes

"The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness..." Exodus 34:6.

The Reality Choice

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:3

The Hope Choice

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted." Matthew 5:4

I. Mourning

Luke 6: *"Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh." (vs. 21)*

"Woe to you who laugh now, for you will mourn and weep."(vs. 25)

"Blessed are those who are sick and tired of being sick and tired. Blessed are those who are tired of living the way they have been and want something better for themselves. Blessed are those who realize they are lost, confused, helpless, who feel dirty, dark, and ugly. Blessed are the guilty who say to themselves "I am not the person I want to be!" I need help from another place, because what I've been looking to for satisfaction bring me no pleasure! All they do is drive me into the ground!"

A Recipe for disaster!

The Corresponding Blessing

"for they will be comforted." Matthew 5:4

1. The Comfort in God's Law

2. The Comfort in Our Guilt

3. The Comfort of His Forgiveness

"Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, 'Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?' Jesus answered, 'I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.'" Matthew 18:21-22

"If you confess your sin, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." I John 1:9

Matthew 5:4

4. The Comfort in the Struggle

"I don't understand what I do. For what I want to do I don't do, but what I hate to do, I do! ...I know that nothing good lives in my sinful nature. I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out." Romans 7:15, 18

5. The Comfort of His Unfailing Love

"What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us? Since he did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won't he also give us everything else? Who dares accuse us whom God has chosen for his own? No one—for God himself has given us right standing with himself. Who then will condemn us? No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor at God's right hand, pleading for us.

Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death?... And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:31-35, 38-39

6. The Comfort in the Cross

"Since we've compiled this long and sorry record as sinners (both us and them) and proved that we are utterly incapable of living the glorious lives God wills for us, God did it for us. Out of sheer generosity he put us in right standing with himself. A pure gift. He got us out of the mess we're in and restored us to where he always wanted us to be. And he did it by means of Jesus Christ." Romans 3:23-24 (The Message)

7. The Comfort of Our Assurance

"Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,..."

Romans 8:1

Matthew 5:4

Question: "So Why Do I Feel Condemned at times? "

The Answer: "We rely on our sanctification for you justification, when it should be resting in our justification to give us hope for our sanctification"

Justification

Sanctification

Justification refers to our spiritually and eternal salvation secured by Jesus. In sanctification we now experience that salvation existentially and experientially. In justification God secured your soul. In sanctification God is actively securing your life...getting you ready for heaven.

"Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you (justification) will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." (sanctification) Philippians 1:6

Two Illustrations

Being Part of a Family

Preparing for Big Events

"It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God-- that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption." I Corinthians 1:30