



# Brown CG Zoom Session

## Mathew 5:3-16 – The Beatitudes

### June 7, 2020

#### I. Starter Context:

- What does it take on our part to receive or be called “Blessed” before God?
- What importance does God place on my standing or appearance before man in our society?
- What is it and how do I get it that allows me to grow close to God and “know” Him?
- In the end, virtually all questions and answers come back to my heart and spirit yielding to trust and humble rather than arrogant and self-willed.

#### II. Opening Discussion:

The Beatitudes are a declaration of blessedness. It does not describe one’s inner feeling about himself, but his state of blessedness as seen by Jesus. The Beatitudes stress the striking contrast between outward appearance and inner reality. The kingdom of heaven belongs not to those who by the world’s standard are rich and mighty. Neither material nor spiritual poverty is blessed, but one’s honest and humble acknowledgement of his impoverishment opens the way for the reception of God’s blessings. It is precisely when man sees his own nothingness that God can give out of his fullness.

Not all ***mourning*** is blessed and much sorrow finds no comfort. The mourners mentioned are those who have the realization of their spiritual impoverishment. This is not limited to sorrow of sin alone though. Comfort is derived now for not only forgiveness of sin, but also includes the hurts and hardships of this life for the children of God. The ***meek*** do not include the weak or cowardly. They are characterized by humble trust rather than arrogant independence. Salvation does not reside to the self-trusting or self-assertive who seek to possess, but to the “poor in spirit” who are willing to lose all for the kingdom.

#### III. Scripture: ***Mathew 5:3-16***

***<sup>3</sup> “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. <sup>5</sup> Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. <sup>6</sup> Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. <sup>7</sup> Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. <sup>8</sup> Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. <sup>9</sup> Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. <sup>10</sup> Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>11</sup> “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.***

***<sup>13</sup> “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. <sup>14</sup> “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.***

**IV. Group Discussion Questions:**

1. Verse 4 promises us that those who mourn will be comforted. How does this comfort materialize? Where does this comfort come from? How is this promise an encouragement to you?
2. Verse 6 states that those who thirst and hunger for righteousness will be satisfied. How will they be satisfied and how does this give us hope for today?
3. In verses 10-12 we see persecution praised multiple times. Why do you think this is and why are we commanded to rejoice and be glad in it?
4. Verses 13-16 instruct us to be the salt and light. What does it tangibly look like for you to be the salt and light of the world?
5. How can we be the Salt and Light as a family, as a Community Group?

**V. Responding in Prayer:**

Pray that God will open our hearts and minds to be receptive to his teaching, ways and will.  
Pray that we learn to be humble, yielding and yearn for his ways.