

Text: Matthew 5:13-16

Subject: THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

INTRODUCTION

1. The Beatitudes

- a) They were to be comprehended
- b) They were to be cultivated
- c) They were to become characteristic

2. The Blessings

- a) As each Beatitude is practised
- b) The promise of God's blessing would be confirmed

3. There is a wonderful balance to be noted

- a) Man's part
- b) God's part in blessing

³Blessed *are* the poor in spirit,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴Blessed *are* those who mourn,
For they shall be comforted.

⁵Blessed *are* the meek,
For they shall inherit the earth.

⁶Blessed *are* those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
For they shall be filled.

⁷Blessed *are* the merciful,
For they shall obtain mercy.

⁸Blessed *are* the pure in heart,
For they shall see God.

⁹ Blessed *are* the peacemakers,
For they shall be called sons of God.

¹⁰ Blessed *are* those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:3-10

4. An extra word of encouragement

¹¹ Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil
against you falsely for My sake.

¹² Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great *is* your reward in heaven, for so they
persecuted the prophets who were before you. Matthew 5:11-12

- a) The 8th Beatitude notes that there may be some suffering
- b) Some words were added by the Lord Jesus to encourage the sufferers
- c) Persecution:
 - i) Reviling
 - ii) Persecuting
 - iii) Blaspheming (saying all kinds of evil against you falsely)
- d) Encouragement to rejoice and to be exceedingly glad
 - i) This is identification with the suffering of the prophets of old
 - ii) This is a privilege to be thus identified with the Biblical heroes

THE CHALLENGE TO THE DISCIPLES

¹³ "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavour, how shall it be
seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot
by men.

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

¹⁵ Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives
light to all *who are* in the house.

b) The Apostles of the Lord proved that we can fulfil the Lord's word