

# The Sermon on the Mount

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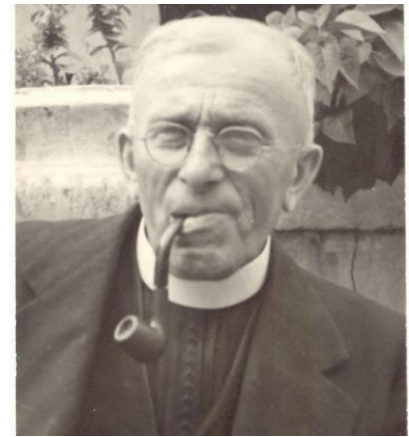
INTRODUCTION & THE BEATITUDES

## *Prayer to the Holy Spirit*

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**Heavenly King,**  
Advocate, Spirit of Truth,  
Who are everywhere present and fill all things,  
Treasury of Blessings, Bestower of Life,  
Come, and dwell within us;  
Cleanse us of all that defiles us,  
And, O Good One, save our souls.

# Blueprints?



If we have blueprints,  
we have a **goal**, and  
we have a **guide**.

The Sermon on the Mount is a “spiritual  
blueprint.” It  
provides the **goal**,  
and serves as a  
**guide**.

It’s all about building  
one’s life on a solid  
foundation.





**IS YOUR  
HOUSE  
BUILT ON  
A SOLID  
FOUNDATION?**





# Capernaum

Jesus moved  
to Capernaum,  
a town of  
1,000-1,500  
inhabitants

Capernaum  
became  
“home base”









# “The Mountain”





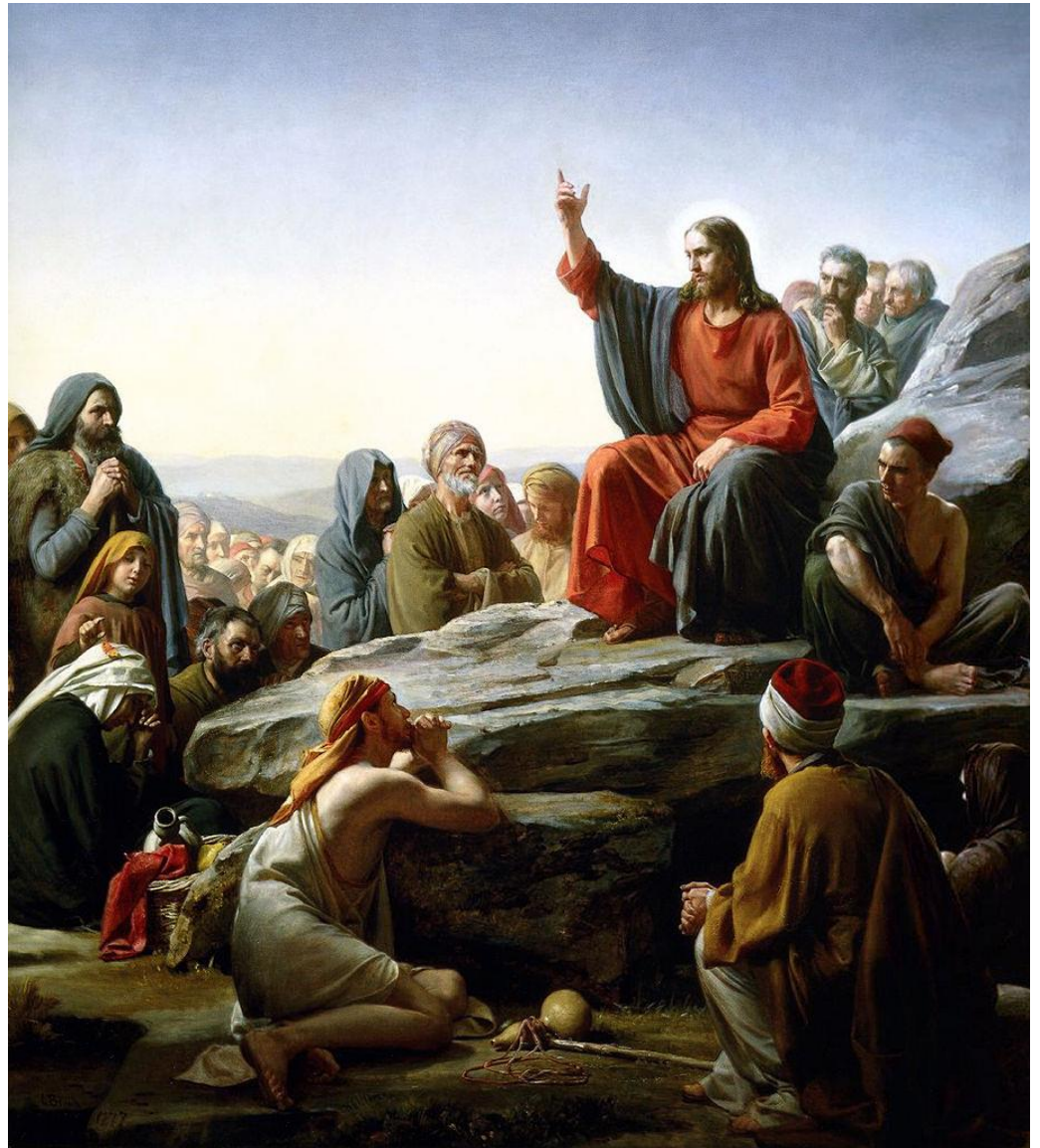


The hills along the north shore of the Sea of Galilee where Jesus may have given the Sermon on the Mount

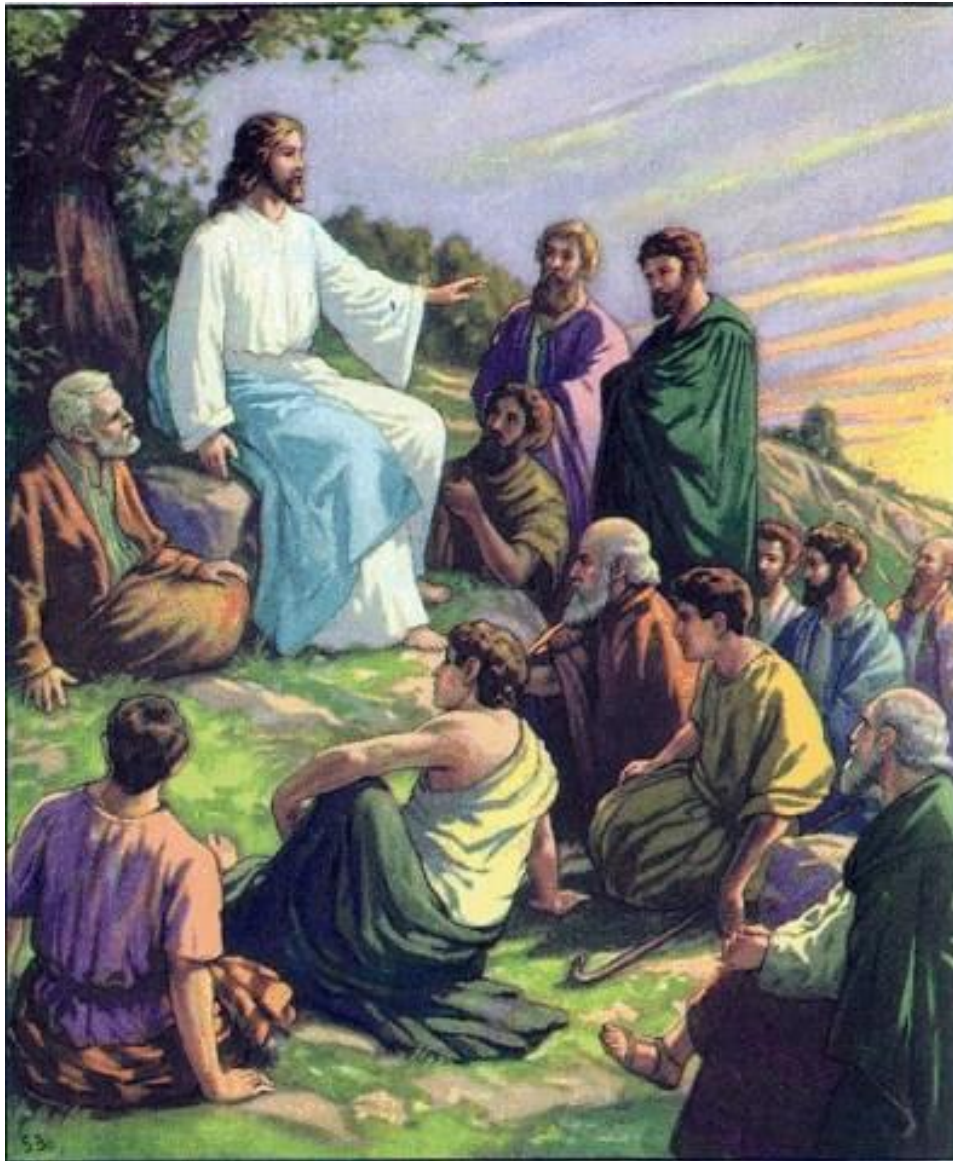
# Jesus the Teacher

“Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down his disciples came to Him”  
(Matthew 5:1)

“And He opened His mouth and taught them...”  
(Mt 5:2)







“He opened His mouth and taught them” (5:2)

- ❑ Verb ***taught*** – an imperfect (indicates repeated and habitual action)
- ❑ Not one sermon, given at one particular time
- ❑ The Sermon on the Mount is a summary of Jesus’ teaching



# Living the Beatitudes

- ❑ **Ten Commandments** – “Ten Words” written by God; describe the People of God; establish clear boundary based on regulations (actions and behaviour)
- ❑ **Beatitudes go step further** – describe the heart, attitudes and desires of one in love with God; describe righteousness (holiness) from within
- ❑ Beatitudes – describe a **disciple** and **friend** of Christ
- ❑ At the heart of Jesus’ preaching
- ❑ An icon of Christ; we see his face and his heart
- ❑ Beautiful “Attitudes” – help us to live the Ten Commandments



## *Blessed (Makarios)*

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- ❑ A joy that is serene and untouchable; “happy” inadequate
- ❑ Declaration that disciples have received a blessing, or will receive in the future
- ❑ *Blessing* – realized in the Kingdom of Heaven
- ❑ Contrary to what “world” considers good.

*I am  
blessed  
and  
happy.*

Q U O T E D I A R Y . M E

# Blessed are the poor in spirit

- ❑ In Greek, two words for poor. Word used is *ptochos* = destitute, totally helpless
- ❑ In Hebrew, *ani* and *abion* describe humble person, the “poor man” who trusts in God
- ❑ In Scripture, “the poor” = humble, uninfluential, detached, aware of own helplessness, put trust in God
- ❑ Jesus is not speaking about economic poverty



**Blessed the  
poor in spirit;  
the kingdom  
of heaven  
is theirs!**

**Matthew 5:3**



# Blessed are they who mourn

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- ❑ *When do we mourn or grieve?*
- ❑ Greek word used here is the strongest word for mourning the death of a loved one.
- ❑ Blessing experienced in this life; fullness in next



**“Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.”**

*-Matthew 5:4*

# Blessed are the meek

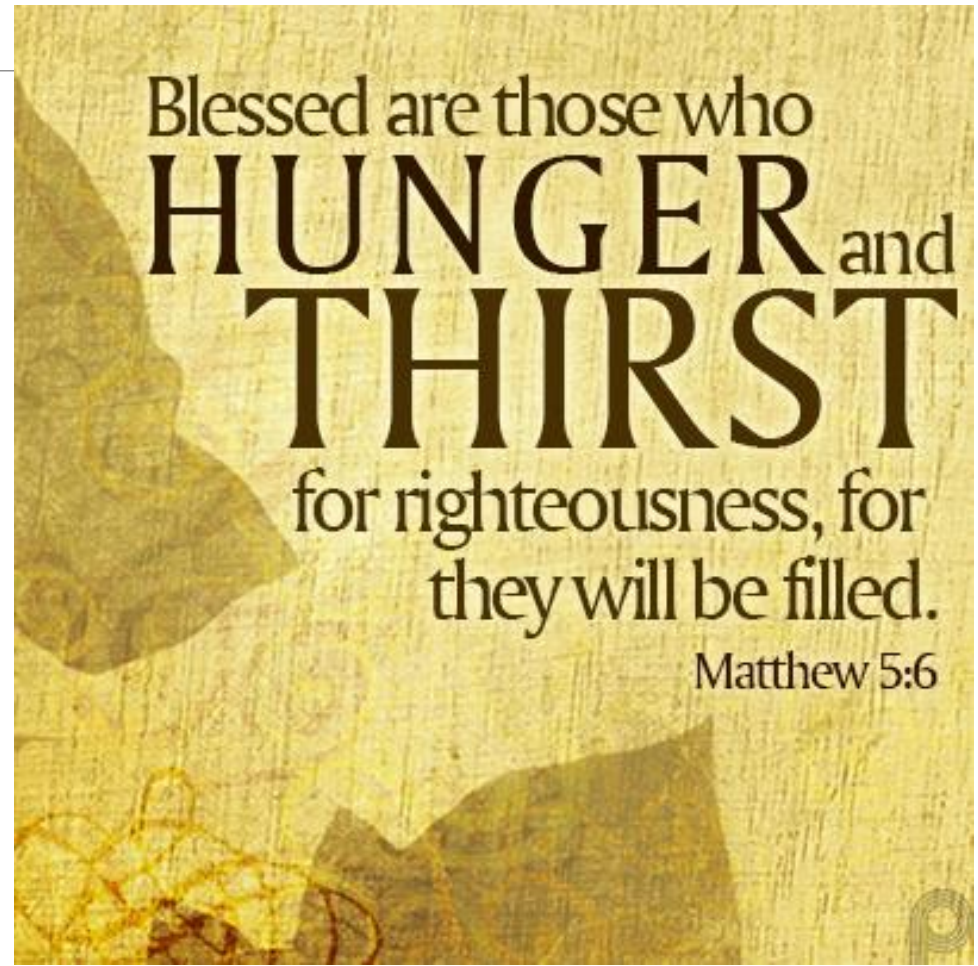
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- ❑ *Meek?*
- ❑ Gentle, yet firm; self-controlled; recognizes own weakness and ignorance; inner strength to restrain from inappropriate anger and discouragement
- ❑ Earth (Land) = reference to the kingdom of God



# Blessed are those who hunger and thirst...

- ❑ Desire to live right, according to God's will; a desire for holiness
- ❑ Blessing experienced in this life, and the next; see Mt 6:33
- ❑ **God's Holiness** – his absolute perfection, set part, otherness
- ❑ God is the source of all holiness (perfection)





# Blessed are the merciful

- ❑ **God's Justice** – penetrates into the heart of all things, and sees the truth
- ❑ **God's Love and Mercy** – His greatest attribute; it unites us to the Creator
- ❑ Called to imitate Jesus
- ❑ Important to extend forgiveness; to be patient and understanding



# Blessed are the pure in heart

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- ❑ *What is the heart?*
- ❑ *How do we see God?*
- ❑ *How will be see God?*



# Blessed are the peacemakers

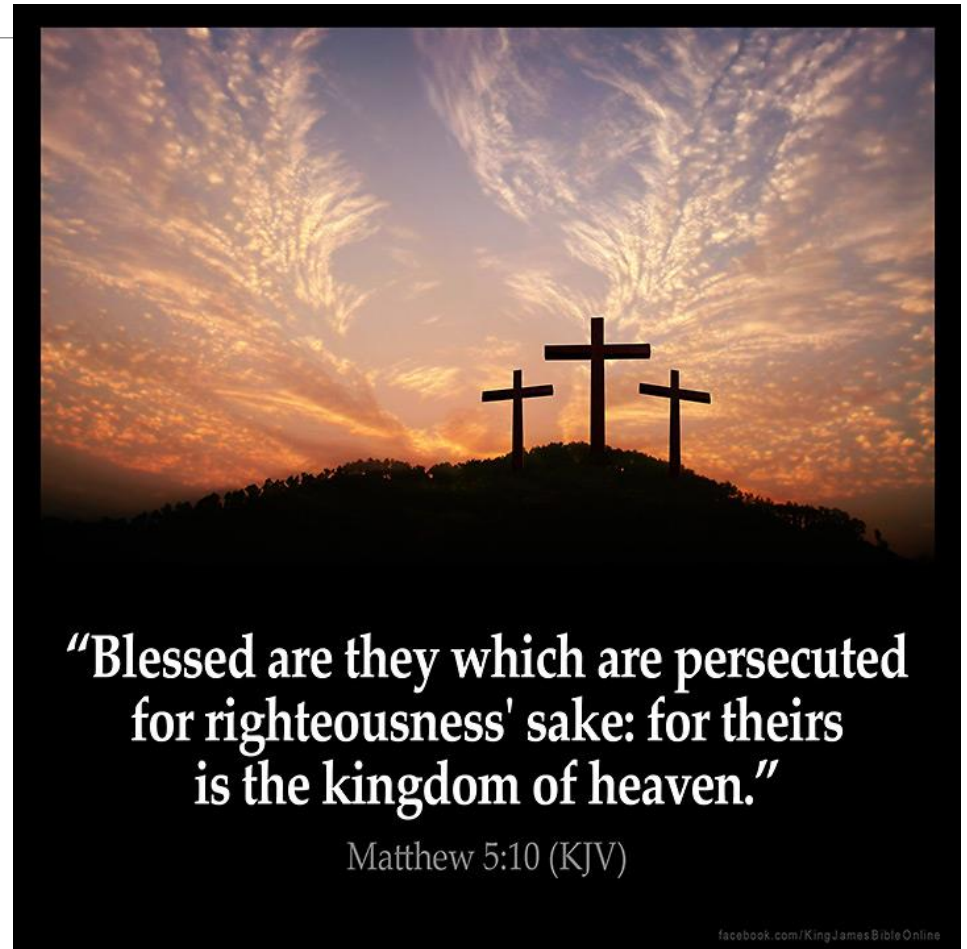
- ❑ Being reconciled and at peace with God
- ❑ Being reconciled and at peace with others
- ❑ To bring peace and harmony, where there is division and discord
- ❑ To share the Gospel





# Blessed are those who are persecuted

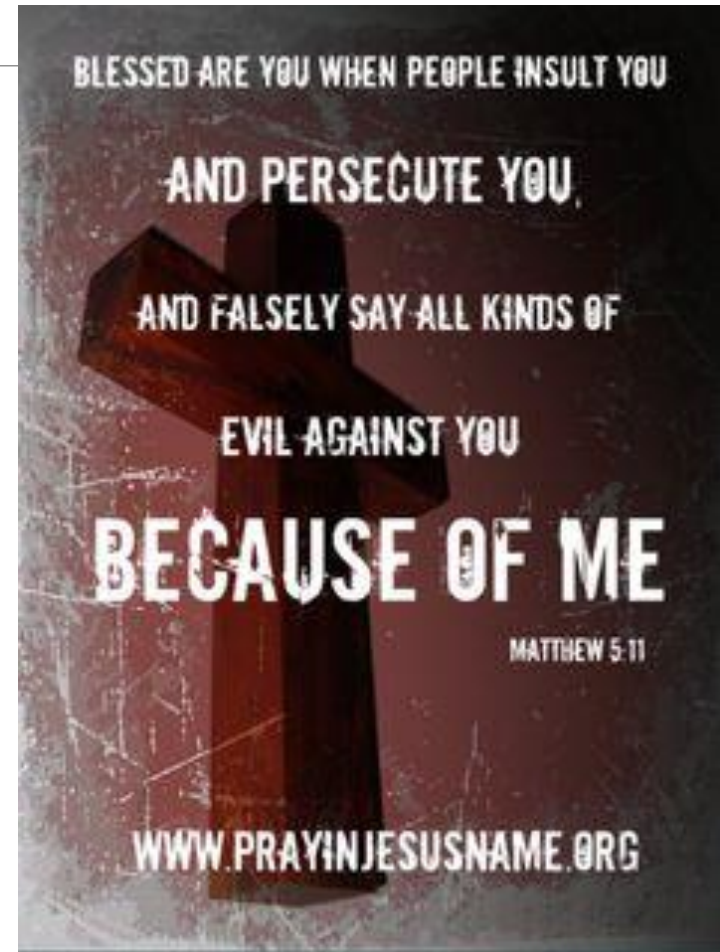
- ❑ To purify a soul, God uses whatever instruments He likes.
- ❑ Often, good intentions and actions are misinterpreted by others; as a result, suffer persecution (harsh criticism, unkind words, coldness, disrespect, mockery, rejection).
- ❑ If accept it, allow God to work in us and prepare us.



# Blessed are you when men revile you

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- ❑ Refers to those who are slandered, abused, oppressed, tortured, or martyred for their public witness to Christ
- ❑ Great reward awaits them in the coming kingdom of God





# Be Salt and Light (Mt 5:13-16)

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- ❑ Salt – associated with purity; used to preserve; important for giving flavour
- ❑ Christians are the be the salt of the earth.  
*What does this mean?*
- ❑ Jerusalem was to be a lamp set on a hill
- ❑ Christians – called to be a lamp, bearing light



# For Consideration and Reflection

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- ☐ Would I consider myself to be “poor in spirit”? Do I really believe that everything belongs to God and everything is a gift?
- ☐ From a scale of 1-10, how would I rate my overall level of trust in God?
- ☐ In times of grief, have I experienced God’s consolation?
- ☐ Is being right with God, and doing what is right in His eyes – is this a priority in my life?
- ☐ Do I pay attention to my heart, my desires and motivations?
- ☐ Justice or mercy... when dealing with people we depend on both; but in the end, which takes precedence?
- ☐ Am I at peace with God? Am I at peace with others?
- ☐ Am I afraid sometimes, to witness my faith? If yes, why?