

Jesus Pronounces Joyous Contentment

**Matthew 5:1-12 (1-3)**

Intro:

- A. **Jesus has begun His personal ministry.**
  - 1. He has been immersed and identified.
  - 2. He has been tested by Satan.
  - 3. He has begun to call out believers.
  - 4. He has begun to teach, preach, and heal.
  
- B. **Great multitudes have been gathered to Him. 4:25a**
  - 1. They have come from many places. 4:25b.
  - 2. Jesus left the multitude. 5:1
  - 3. He set a physical barrier between Himself and the mildly interested, the religiously unconvinced, the egocentric, the ones who hoped for gain or power.
  - 4. Just climbing a high hill or mountain would be enough to discourage those who were spiritually blind and deaf.
  
- C. **Jesus taught His disciples. V.1a-2**
  - 1. set = καθίζω = "to sit down"
  - 2. disciples = μαθητης = "student", "pupil", "one who follows another in order to receive his teaching." Luke 14:27 - **"And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple."**
  - 3. Peter, Andrew, James and John must, "follow" Him.
  - 4. taught = διδάσκω = "he began to teach"
  
- D. **What did Jesus teach His disciples?**
  - 1. The principles of church growth?
  - 2. The power of positive thinking?
  - 3. How to win men and influence people?
  - 4. How to have their needs met?
  
- I. The Value Of True Self - Evaluation. (Seeing yourself as you really are.)
  - A. **"Blessed are the poor in spirit..." v.3**
    - 1. blessed = μακαριος = "Joyously confident"

2. poor = πτωχος = "crouching", "cringing in the manner of a beggar", "having nothing at all."
3. spirit = πνευμα = "spirit, the realm in which the poverty exists."
4. This poverty exists. It is real. Also the Joyous contentment is real. It too exists in reality.
5. When one is totally destitute and one is joyously content, it is true that they have come to grips and have handled the problems well and seen the end of it all, through a divine solution.

B. **What it is not, (that is, spiritual poverty).**

1. It is not feeling unworthy.
2. It is not admitting guilt.
3. It is not psychological depression.
4. It is not meekness or humility.
5. It is an evaluation of one's self, not someone else.

C. **The source of one's joy.**

1. It does not come from one's spiritual poverty.
2. It comes from knowing God's solution.
3. 2 Corinthians 8:9 - **"For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich."**
4. 1 Peter 2:21-24
5. We see our poverty but we know Christ's spiritual riches. He will impart them to us by faith. This provides us with great joy and contentment.

II. The Blessing Of True Self-Evaluation.

A. **"for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."**

1. kingdom = βασιλεια = "the royal dominion, including the power and form of government of a king, including a realm and a ruling."
2. heaven = των ουρανων = "the heavens"
3. αυτων εστιν = "it belongs to them"

B. **The immutability of God's promise.**

1. We are to make a spiritual evaluation.
2. We are to conclude our poverty and our absolute bankruptcy.
3. We see God's plan and His provision.
4. We accept by faith God's promises.
5. The kingdom of heaven is ours! It is as though we already live in it. Our citizenship is already changed. Our hope is in the King!
6. Hebrews 6:17-19, There is the soul-rest. There is the kingdom of heaven.

III. The Value Of Seeing Things As They Really Are.

A. **"Blessed are they that mourn..." v.4**

1. blessed = μακαριος = "Joyously confident"
2. mourn = πενθεω = "to lament for the dead"  
To have such grief that one is incapable of hiding it.
3. If we view this as being to physical death we immediately think of the death of Lazarus.
4. John 11:4,11,14,25-27,43-44
5. There is a larger view that we should take. It is highly unpopular. There will be the terrible accusation of pessimism. There is an optimist club but not a pessimist's club.
6. Jesus mourned over Jerusalem. Matthew 23:37-39
7. Jesus was being a pessimist or a realist?
8. Can we look at a city, a community, a group, a family, and an individual and "mourn" for them?
9. Paul was grieved for a certain damsel. Acts 16:16-18

B. **"for they shall be comforted."**

1. This is an absolute certainty.
2. comforted = παρακαλεω = "to call alongside" This would apply to the wounded soldier who would be invited to come to the side of another strong soldier and be helped.
3. When God's people properly evaluate life and see the plight of the masses, the

inevitability of judgment and mourn, God will comfort them.

4. Whatever grief we experience for truly serving our Lord, He will not leave us comfortless.
5. John 14:15-18
6. The Comforter is the Spirit of truth.

#### IV. Self-Restraint And Joyous Confidence.

##### A. **"Blessed are the meek..." v.5**

1. blessed = μακαριος = "joyously confident"
2. meek = πραως = "enduring all things with a gentle temper", "free from haughtiness." "Restraining oneself from exercising the power one has in order to prevent an action or vindicate one's self." There is a humble and gentle emotion which is seen in one's submission to evil or personal injury, or insult. There is power present to stop any such action but none is taken. Also, there is no plot for revenge.

##### B. **Examples of meekness by Jesus.**

1. Jesus was meek and lowly. Matthew 11:28-30
2. He entered Jerusalem meekly. Zechariah 9:9, Matthew 21:5
3. He rebuked those who were not meek. Luke 9:51-56
4. He restrained Himself in the temple. Matthew 21:12-14
5. He restrained Himself on the cross.
6. He restrained Himself while being flogged.

##### C. **Meekness and the Christian character.**

1. Turn the other cheek. (you could defend) Matthew 5:39
2. Give them your cloak also. (not necessary) Matthew 5:40
3. Go the second mile. (not bound by law) Matthew 5:41
4. Loan money to all who ask. Matthew 5:42

##### D. **Meekness and the epistles.**

1. A proper attitude for instructing others. 2 Timothy 2:25

2. Should be shown to all. Titus 2:3
3. Our witness should be given with meekness.  
1 Peter 3:15
4. Necessary to receive corrective teaching.  
James 1:21

V. The Blessing of Self-Restraint.

A. **"...for they shall inherit the earth."**

1. inherit = κληρονομεω = "to be a receiver of apportion", "to receive a share of an inheritance."
2. earth = γη = "land"

B. **The earth they shall inherit.**

1. Not the earth as it now is!
2. Not a name it and claim it earth!
3. The earth of the millennial.
4. The new earth of eternities reign.

C. **At this point we do not exercise our physical power to take the earth from Satan.**

1. Peter was told to put up his sword.
2. Jesus said He would defend Himself if He chose to do so.
3. He will come and He will conquer and God will give Him the kingdom.
4. Luke 9:44 = **"Let these saying sink down into your ears"**
  1. sink down = τιθημι = to set, put, place, lay
  2. "you must store up these teaching in your minds" - Gspd
  3. "store these words in your memory"

VI. The Blessing Of Hunger And Thirst. Matthew 5:6

A. **"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness..."**

1. blessed = "joyously confident"
2. hunger = πειναω = "to hunger after", "to long for"
3. thirst = διψαω = "to thirst", "to thirst after"
4. righteousness = δικαιοσυνη = (Bullinger) δικαιοσυνη, the doing or being what is just

and right; the character and acts of a man commanded by and approved of God, in virtue of which the man corresponds with Him and His will as His ideal and His standard; it signifies the sum total of all that God commands and approves. As such it is not only what God demands, but what He gives to man, and which is appropriated by faith; and hence it is a state called forth by God's act of justification, viz. by judicial deliverance from all that stands in the way of being  $\delta\iota\kappa\alpha\iota\omicron\varsigma$  (see "RIGHTEOUS.")

- B. **These are the two strongest desires in man.**
1. A thirsty person will give up all for water.
  2. A hungry person loses all perspective.
  3. We use the phrase, "driven by hunger, (thirst)."
  4. We reserve our greatest anger for those who would starve or let die of thirst another human.
- C. **It is used in scripture to describe one's actions under trial or temptation.**
1. Jesus was weakened before His test. Matthew 4:1
  2. Esau sold his birthright. Genesis 25:30
  3. The Israelites murmured. Feared hunger, feared thirst. Exodus 16:2-3
  4. It drove some to cannibalism. 2 Kings 6:28-29
  5. It caused some to curse God. Isaiah 8:21
  6. It will bring out the worst or best!
- D. **It is used by the Lord to describe spiritual hunger.**
1. David. Psalm 42:1-2, 107:9
  2. Jesus. John 7:37
  3. Do people really do what they want to do?
  4. Who is responsible for another's thirst or hunger?
- E. **The object of spiritual hunger.**
1. It is to be what God wants us to be, this is character.

2. It is to do what God wants us to do.
3. It has nothing to do with pleasing ourselves or pleasing others.
4. It has nothing to do with material things.

F. **"...for they shall be filled."**

1. filled = χορταζω = "to feed with grass or hay", "to feed", "fill with food."
2. Those who have an intense desire to be fed on spiritual food, will be fed.
3. David summed it up in Psalm 23.
4. It is the pastor's duty. 1 Peter 5:2, John 21:15,16. Do you love me? Feed my lambs, sheep, sheep.

G. **The spiritual infant and junk food.**

1. Does it exist? Yes!
2. What is it? It is that which is based on carnality. It is the flesh.
3. If the spiritual gifts of the early church were child-gifts and unworthy to continue, (healing, prophecy, interpretation, etc.) what must god think of all they play things we have invented to make church fun. 1 Corinthians 12:8-11
4. Can we dull our appetites on spiritual junk food?

H. **God may send a spiritual famine.**

1. Amos 8:11 - "And behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord."
2. The answer. John 7:37-38

VII. The Blessing Of Being Merciful. **Matthew 5:7**

A. **"Blessed are the merciful..."**

1. blessed = μακαριος = "Joyfully confident" Matthew 5:7
2. merciful = ελεημων = "actively compassionate, not merely unhappy for the ills of others but desirous of relieving them; and as quickly as possible.

B. **This is human to human.**

1. It is an emotion.
2. It is an action.
3. This is the emotion that drove Jesus.  
Hebrews 2:17-18
4. Jesus was made a man, that as a man he might suffer and become a faithful High Priest.

C. **It is what God does toward man.**

1. The Pharisee and Publican. Luke 18:9-14
2. The Publican said, "**God be merciful to me a sinner.**"
3. In the holy of holies was the mercy seat.
4. 1 Peter 1:3-5

D. **An example of human to human mercy.**

1. Luke 10:25-37
2. "**which now of these, thinkest thou, was neighbor to him that fell among thieves**"? V.36
3. "**And he said, He that showed mercy on him.**" V.37

E. **"...for they shall obtain mercy."**

1. obtain = ελεεω = "passive, to receive the succour or pity."
2. "...be shown mercy"! - Gspd.

F. **The pronouncement of Jesus.**

1. This is an inviolate principal.
2. It will happen.
3. It will come from God and it will come from men.

VIII. The Blessing Of Being Pure In Heart. **Matthew 5:8**

A. **"Blessed are the pure in heart..."**

1. blessed = μακαριος = "Joyfully confident"
2. pure = καθαρος = "clean" "free from everything that would affect a change from one thing to another, such as one thing corrupting another." "free from every false adornment."
3. heart = καρδια = "the seat of one's inner life", "who we really are."



4. The figure of speech is clear; if one has a clean heart he lives. If one has a dirty heart, one dies.
5. David's prayer. Psalm 51:10

**B. Man's heart and God's word.**

1. Seat of:
  1. Actions - Matthew 12:33,35
  2. Adultery - Matthew 5:28
  3. Affections - Matthew 15:18-20
  4. Desire - Romans 10:1
  5. Doubt - Mark 11:23
  6. Fear - Isaiah 35:4
  7. Hatred - Leviticus 19:17
  8. Joy - Acts 2:26
  9. Love - Mark 12:30,33
  10. Lust - Romans 1:24
  11. Meditation - Psalm 19:14
  12. Mischief - Psalm 28:3
  13. Obedience - Romans 6:17
  14. Presumption - Esther 7:5
  15. Pride - Proverbs 16:5
  16. Purpose - 2 Corinthians 9:7
  17. Reason - Mark 2:8
  18. Rebellion - Jeremiah 5:23
  19. Sorrow - John 14:1
  20. Thought - Matthew 9:4
2. Of the wicked, described as:
  1. Blind - Ephesians 4:18
  2. Darkened - Romans 1:21
  3. Covetous - 2 Peter 2:14
  4. Despiteful - Ezekiel 25:15
  5. Full of evil - Genesis 6:5
  6. Hard - Romans 2:5
  7. Lustful - Proverbs 6:25
  8. Proud - Jeremiah 49:16
  9. Rebellious - Jeremiah 5:23
  10. Uncircumcised - Acts 7:51
3. God's action upon:
  1. Knows - Psalm 44:21
  2. Searches - 1 Chronicles 28:9
  3. Enlightens - 2 Corinthians 4:6
4. Regenerates described as:
  1. Circumcised - Romans 2:29

2. Clean - Psalm 73:1
3. Confident - Psalm 112:7,8
4. Contrite - Psalm 51:17
5. Enlarged - Psalm 119:32
6. Enlightened - 2 Corinthians 4:6
7. Established - Psalm 57:7
8. Joyful in God - 1 Samuel 2:1
9. Meditative - Psalm 4:4
10. Perfect with God - Psalm 101:2
11. Prayerful - 1 Samuel 1:13
12. Pure - Matthew 5:8
13. Single and sincere - Acts 2:46
14. Tender - 2 Kings 22:19
15. Treasury of good - Matthew 12:35
16. Wise - Proverbs 10:8
17. Zealous - Jeremiah 20:9

5. Regenerates, responses of:

1. Believe with - Romans 10:10
2. Keep with diligence - Proverbs 4:23
3. Love God with all - Matthew 22:37
4. Sanctify God in - 1 Peter 3:15
5. Serve God with all - Deuteronomy 26:16
6. Walk before God with all - 1 Kings 2:4
7. Trust God with all - Proverbs 3:5
8. Regard not iniquity in - Psalm 66:18
9. do God's will from - Ephesians 6:6

**C. David's heart.**

1. David had an unregenerate one.
2. David had a regenerate one.
3. He had various kinds afterward.
4. All these experiences are ours.
5. How may we have a pure heart?
6. By taking heed unto God's word, not by doing something.

**D. Our age and the human heart.**

1. Our hearts are restless.
2. Our hearts are empty.
3. Our hearts are broken.
4. Our hearts are divided.
5. Our hearts are cruel and hardened.
6. Our hearts have questions.
7. Our hearts have doubts.
8. Our hearts are hungry.

E. **"for they shall see God."**

1. see = οψομαι = "used as the future and passive) comes from, οραω = "to perceive with the eyes,"
2. God = θεος = God

F. **Here are two truths.**

1. They shall literally see the literal God!
2. Job believed this! Job 19:25-27
3. They shall "see" Him in the sense of comprehending His person, His attributes, His character.

G. **The two realities.**

1. We shall see Him as a Friend, King, Creator, Savior, Forerunner, High Priest, Advocate, Mediator, Redeemer, Deliverer, Lily of the Valley, Rose of Sharon, etc.
2. We shall see Him as judge.
  1. (for every eye shall see Him)
  2. (they shall look upon Him whom they have pierced.)

IX. The Blessing Of Being A Peacemaker. **Matthew 5:9**

A. **"Blessed are the peacemakers:" v.9**

1. blessed = μακαριος = "Joyfully confident"
2. peacemakers = ειρηνοποιος = "peace + make or to do"

B. **The making of peace.**

1. Peace must be made.
2. We know war is waged, it is started.
3. Peace is not the result of passivity.
4. Peace is the result of action.

C. **The scope of peacemaking.**

1. In the church.
2. In the home.
3. In one's community.
4. In every place of our influence.

D. **The process of peace.**

1. God made war against Satan.
2. Jesus died to establish the grounds of peace between God and man.

3. Peace cannot come at the neglect of principle. This only brings greater strife.
  4. Jesus drove the money-changers from the temple.
  5. Peace may result from chastisement.
- E. **"...for they shall be called the children of God."**
1. called = κἀλω = "to name", "to bear the name."
  2. children = υιος = this is a son, a mature son. Not a little child, or an infant, but a full-grown, mature, responsibility bearing son.
  3. Peacemaking strongly identifies us with God.
  4. Sowers of strife, discord, that leads to the destruction of peace, destroys the testimony of those who are immature sons.
- F. **The peacemaker must have discernment.**
1. When is principle involved?
  2. When is appeasement of the wicked misinterpreted as peace? (Neville Chamberlain and Hitler)
  3. Church discipline must not be neglected in the name of peace.
  4. One is never a peacemaker when plain doctrine is ignored.
- G. **A time of peace is coming.**
1. Greatest in its effect. Will be genuine.
  2. Greatest in its scope. Worldwide.
  3. Greatest in its length. 1,000 years.
- H. **How it is achieved.**
1. By a King, Prince, Holy Despot!
  2. By power, and strength.
  3. By divine enforcement.
  4. Not by democratic enforcement.
- X. The Blessing Of Being And Doing Right. **Matthew 5:10**
- A. **"Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness sake:" v.10**
1. blessed = μακαριος = "Joyfully confident"

2. persecuted = διωκω = "to cause to flee," "to pursue with hatred," "to pursue"
3. righteousness = δικαιοσυνη = "the character and acts of a person who is right with God."
4. sake = ενεκεν = "because of", "on account of"

**B. Examples of persecution.**

1. Jesus was hounded by religious bigots and was ultimately falsely accused and crucified. His only crime was in being right.
2. Paul was a persecutor. He hounded the church.
3. Paul was persecuted and ultimately paid by being beheaded. 2 Timothy 3:10-12 - **"yea and all that live godly.."**
4. John was banished to Patmos.
5. Stephen was stoned to death.

**C. The qualifier, "for the cause of righteousness."**

1. It is not for being a meddler.
2. It is not for doing something for ourselves.

**D. "for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."**

1. "for to them belongs the kingdom of heaven."
2. βασιλεια των ουρανων = "kingdom of the heavens."
3. They truly represent the heavenly kingdom.
4. They belong to the kingdom.
5. The kingdom belongs to them.

**XI. The Blessing Of Being Reproached. Matthew 5:11-12**

**A. "Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you."**

**V.11**

1. blessed = μακαριος = "Joyfully confident"
2. revile = ονειδιζω = "to defame", "to heap insults upon", "to reproach with words," "to assail with bad words."

**B. "and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you...for my sake"**

1. persecute = διωκω = "to cause to flee"
2. "and say all sorts of wicked and evil things about you.."
3. Character assassination by words.

C. **The two qualifiers.**

1. falsely = ψευδω = "to deceive by lying.
2. For the cause of Jesus Christ.

D. **"Rejoice, and be exceeding glad:" v.12**

1. rejoice = χαιρω = "to be happy"
2. exceeding glad = αγαλλιαομαι = "to rejoice greatly", "to dance much" "to exult"

E. **"for great is your reward in heaven."**

1. great = πολυς = "many", "numerous," "of number."
2. reward = μισθος = "hire," wages," "pay."
3. Not in mass but in numbers.

F. **"for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you."**

1. persecuted = (see B-1 above)
2. The Old Testament prophets.
3. What were they persecuted for?
4. 1 Peter 4:12-19