

## **Exposition of Matthew**

### **The Beatitudes: Poor in Spirit and Mourners**

#### **(Matt. 5:3-4)**

#### **Introduction to the Beatitudes or the Macarisms**

1. The term, *beatus* (Latin) or *makarioj* (Gk)
2. OT roots in wisdom literature (Psa. 1:1; 32:1-2; 119:1-2; 128:1; 144:15; Prov. 3:13; Dan. 12:12)
3. The beatitudes are characteristics of disciples what to be  
We should pursue these
4. The Beatitudes are not only countercultural, they are counterintuitive.
5. Each beatitude describes the characteristic and then the blessing based on it (blessed are... because...)

#### **I. Blessed are the Poor in Spirit**

- A. Blessed
- B. The poor in spirit

#### **II. For theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven**

- A. The reason
- B. The kingdom of heaven is not given on the basis of...
- C. They enjoy the reign and rule of Messiah.

B.B. Warfield, The attitude of the “miserable sinner” is not only not one of despair; it is not even one of depression; and not even one of hesitation or doubt; hope is too weak a word to apply to it. It is an attitude of exultant joy. Only this joy has its ground not in ourselves but in our Savior. We are sinners and we know ourselves to be sinners, lost and helpless in ourselves. But we are saved sinners; and it is our salvation which gives the tone to our life, a tone of joy which swells in exact proportion to the sense we have of our ill-desert; for it is he to whom much is forgiven who loves much, and who, loving, rejoices much.

#### **III. Blessed are those who mourn**

Those who mourn

#### **IV. For they shall be comforted**

- A. The comfort is God’s response (Isa. 40:1)
- B. The comfort is the basis of the blessedness for those who mourn
- C. They shall be comforted in the future and now

#### **Conclusion**