

Matthew 5 **The Beatitudes of Thanksgiving**

Main Service

11/26/2023

Introduction :

In the Old Testament, when the Law was given (Exodus ch 19-20): *the Lord came down ... and the whole mount quaked ... and there were thunders and lightnings ... and the voice exceeding loud ...* and the people were commanded to keep their distance.

Paul later wrote, *Jesus was made a surety of a better testament.* Hebrews 7:22

Here he demonstrates it when he lays out the precepts of his kingdom.

Our Lord went up into a mountain and beckoned the hearers to draw nigh.

He begins not with maledictions on the wicked, but benedictions on his people.

Jesus spoke in a still, small voice.

1 Kings 19:12

Here he ministered to the afflicted and revealed that his kingdom has the key to blessings that are hidden from the world of the unsaved who suppose that outward comforts and luxuries bring happiness.

1 *Blessed are the poor in spirit : for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

key : ***poor in spirit*** !

Not poor in monetary resources.

Many living in poverty are envious and angry, they have a covetous spirit.

They murmur and complain incessantly.

Jude 16

Their ungodly pride often rivals the affluent.

And the world admires their defiant, haughty, self-asserting attitude.

A *poor spirit* recognizes the poverty and emptiness of self.

Gal 6:3

It opens the sin-blinded eyes of self-centeredness and looks to God.

Psalms 8

The poor spirit is a contrite spirit.

Psalms 34:18

2 *mourn* - kinds of mourning

1. natural mourning - comes with loss.

2. sinful mourning - grief when you're caught, e.g. Cain.

Or when your sins do not find their way to the heart.