

Letting God Take Over
Matthew 5:1-12
June 7, 2015

Introduction

Celebrate Our Distinctions

The main thing: I am called to be different.

American beatitudes

Blessed are the talented for they have a bright future.

Blessed are the confident for they will be successful.

Blessed are the ambitious for they will be promoted.

Blessed are those that pursue wealth for they will live in luxury.

Blessed are those that look after themselves for they will get the prize.

Blessed are the good-looking for people will look up to them.

Blessed are the strong for they will not fail.

Blessed are those that live comfortable lives for they will be happy.

Blessed are those that are popular for they will be admired.

- Application: be aware of the pull away from biblical values.

Key reminders to living out our distinctions:

1. Blessedness involves character not physical stuff.

- Application: be passionate about spiritual disciplines!

2. There is oftentimes a delay between living it and being rewarded for it.

➤ Application: savor those moments each day where you live for Christ!

3. Christ embodies these qualities; therefore, to embody them is to embody Christ.

➤ Application: stay attached to our anchor – Christ!

Matthew 5:1-12

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ² and he began to teach them.

He said:

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.