

Series: Eight Keys to Happiness

Happiness Is An Attitude

Matthew 5:3-12 (NIV)

*"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 sons 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. ¹²Rejoice and
be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same
way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*

1. UNDERSTANDING THE ATTITUDES OF THE BEATITUDES.

- They are paradoxical.
- They are progressive.
- They are contrary to our predisposition.
- They cause persecution and produce light.

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

Matthew 5:14 (NIV) *"You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden."*

2. REAL HAPPINESS IS FOUND IN HUMILITY.

v. 3a *"Blessed are the poor in spirit..."*

- Happiness is not found in position.
- Happiness is not found in possessions.
- Happiness is found in an attitude of humility.

Proverbs 16:19 (NIV)

Better to be lowly in spirit and among the oppressed than to share plunder with the proud.

3. REAL HAPPINESS SPRINGS FORTH IN JOY AND HOPE.

v. 3b *"...for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."*

- Happiness is often focused on our circumstance, joy takes us deeper.

Philippians 4:11 (NIV)

I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances.

- Those who operate in genuine humility focus on the hope of heaven.

Romans 15:13 (NIV)

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

- The right attitude produces benefits that are out of this world.

When we adopt an attitude of humility, God establishes His kingdom in us which produces a hope that will not fade.