

Glorious Alternative - Approved of by God

When we live by the qualities that Jesus presents to us, we find that true happiness (or bliss) is derived from who we are and not what is happening to us.

“To be blessed is not a superficial feeling of well-being based on circumstance, but a deep supernatural experience of contentedness based on the fact that one’s life is right with God.”

He (Jesus) 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. Matthew 5:2-12

“Blessed are the poor in spirit”

The poor in spirit are those who recognize their total spiritual destitution and complete dependence on God.

“Blessed are those who mourn”

Jesus is talking about is sadness and regret over personal sin that leads to change.

Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, 2 Corinthians 7:10

“Blessed are the meek”

A lack of gentleness and civility is evidence that you are too highly concerned with yourself and having your own way.

“Individually, each man tends to assume, without thinking, that he is at the center of the universe; therefore he relates poorly to the four billion others who are laboring under a similar delusion.”

I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. 2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Ephesians 4:1-2

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness”

The person who hungers and thirsts for righteousness hungers and thirsts for God’s will in every aspect of life.

“Blessed are the merciful”

Mercy is meeting people’s needs. It is not simply feeling compassion but showing compassion, not only sympathizing but giving a helping hand. Mercy is giving food to the hungry, comfort to the bereaved, love to the rejected, forgiveness to the offender, companionship to the lonely. It is therefore one of the loveliest and noblest of all virtues.

When you see the needs of the world around you, stop assuming that it is someone else’s responsibility.

“Blessed are the pure in heart”

Purity in heart is about matching the outer life to the inner one.

***3 Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place?
4 The one who has clean hands and a pure heart, Psalm 24:3-4***

“Blessed are the Peacemakers”

Peacemaking is the natural result of someone who has built a life on The Beatitudes.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted, Blessed are you when people insult you”

Persecutions and insults are the inevitable result of living out the first seven Beatitudes.

“If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first.” John 15:18

