

The theme of the sermon on the mount is the Kingdom of Heaven "Jesus said, 'My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place.'"

John 18:36

The sermon on the mount is description of what it looks like to live in the kingdom of heaven on earth today.

The sermon on the mount is a description of what it looks like to live in a loving relationship with God and others.

The sermon on the mount wasn't only taught by Jesus, it was lived out by Jesus.

- ⇒ Beatitudes are pronouncements of who is welcomed into the Kingdom
- ⇒ Beatitudes are pronouncements of the priorities of the King
- ⇒ Beatitudes are the promises of the Kingdom of Heaven which are experienced in part today, and will be experience in fullness in the coming reign.

Blessed... "Happy are those who..."

Happiness is not in the situation, but in the conclusion.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 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 5:3-12

QUESTIONS: What do you think makes a follower of Jesus "different" in our world? Which beatitude do you relate to most? Why? What do you look forward most to the coming Kingdom of Heaven? What do you think you experience today from living under the King now?