

January 10, 2024

The Lord wants you to live in His light.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus laid out for us, a picture of what it looks like when someone lives in God's light. And, in the next several verses, He gives us a spiritual drawing of those who live in His light. Many have called these 'The Beatitudes.' I like to call them The Beautiful Attitudes.

Mt. 5:3 *Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.* (NIV) The term blessed is translated as one who is truly happy. This is not a transitory state, but a continual one. This attitude is used to describe the next few statements of Christ. In today's verse we see the term 'poor in spirit.' This is not necessarily a state of financial gravity, but of the attitude of the heart. It means, as Paul stated in **Phil. 4:12-13 *I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through Him Who gives me strength.*** (NIV)

All things become different when we realize that they will never satisfy us, but only a right relationship with the One Who made us. Walking in His presence and keeping our eyes fixed on Him leads us into a place of contentment rather than contention. It is realizing that He is God and we are not. It is experiencing His hand upon us instead of against us. John puts it this way in **1 John 1:7 *But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin.*** (NIV) You might wonder how this is possible. It has everything to do with our perspective. Do you see through your physical eyes or through the filter of the Holy Spirit? We can see so much more as the Father lights the way for us. **Mt. 6:33 *But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*** (NIV)

Dear LORD, help us to look to You for everything we need. You are our supply. In You, we have all things. In Jesus Name, Amen