

## **The Poor in Spirit**

***“And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people. Then His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon-possessed, epileptics, and paralytics; and He healed them. Great multitudes followed Him—from Galilee, and from Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan.”*** Matthew 4:23-25

1. Jesus is known in His home area (vs. 23).
2. Jesus is known in Syria (vs. 24).
3. Jesus is known in His home country (vs. 25).
4. Jesus is known in Gentile countries (vs. 25).
  - a. Galilee – Economic culture
  - b. Decapolis – Greek culture
  - c. Jerusalem/Judea – Religious
  - d. Beyond Jordan – Arabic
5. The multitudes of followers are vast (vs. 25).

## **The Beatitudes**

*“And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying:*

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

*Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.*

*Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.*

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

*Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.*

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

*Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.*

*Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

*Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” Matthew 5:1-12*

1. They are progressive from new birth (vs. 3) into spiritual maturity (vs. 10-12).
2. Blessings are attached to each level of our life.
3. These are not for the millennium but for the present kingdom of God.

### **The First Beatitude**

*“Blessed (makarios – fortunate) are the poor (pauper, destitute) for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” (vs. 3).*

1. The kingdom of heaven has already been provided for the destitute in spirit - the bankrupt sinner.
2. The issue with the sinner is not his **sins** but rejection of Jesus (John 16:8-9).
3. The new birth, God’s kingdom has already been provided.
4. The sinner can rejoice. All things needed for salvation have even provided.
5. The sinner does not have to try to save himself. He just needs to receive the redemption work of Jesus (2 Corinthians 5:18-21).
6. Mankind has been reconciled to God through the death of Jesus.
7. Now mankind can be reconciled to God through faith.
8. All people need to do is to receive Jesus and become righteousness.