

# Looking for happiness? Pt1 & Pt2

Joy is an attitude

Happy is an emotion

Has happy been deprioritized?

What was Jesus's first sermon on?

[Mat 5:2-12 ESV] 2 And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: 3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. 5 "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. 6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. 7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. 8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. 9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. 10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Blessed = Happy

So the text could read happy are those who...

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

**Be poor to prosper.**

**Poor in spirit** = Emptying yourself of your own ability. Totally reliant and ok with being reliant on Him. In complete surrender to His will.

4 Questions to ask yourself

1. How do you take correction?
2. How do you work with others?
3. How well do you submit to others?
4. Do you have to be in charge and control?

## **The promise - have the kingdom**

**Belonging** - EP 2:19-20 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.

**New Beginnings** - John 3:3 Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.

**Good News** - Mark 1:15 "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

**Healing** - Luke 10:9 Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.

**Authority** - Matthew 16:19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

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

## **Mourning to dancing**

**Mourn** = Having the comfort and care of something or someone gone.

Often this through know choice of our own. However there are sometimes we should choose to be willing to go through this process to lose the grip of:

1. Addictions
2. Toxic relationship & friendships
3. Unhealthy dependence on others

## **The promise - shall be comforted**

**Companionship** - Deu 31:8 The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.

**Hope** - Rom 15:13 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.

**Purpose** - 2 Cor 1:4 who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.

**Lighter Load** - Matthew 11:30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

**Protection** - Ps 23:4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

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

## **Seek to be Meek**

**Meek** = a disposition of attitude not a personality type. It is the quick acceptance of His management of our affairs without dispute or resistance.

Questions

1. Do I obey quickly when I hear God?
2. Do I accept his direction without understanding the destination?
3. Do I have to know everything before I do anything?

## **The Promise - inherit the heart**

**Work** - Psalm 90:17 Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes, establish the work of our hands!

**Ability** - 2 Corinthians 9:8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

**Leadership** - Acts 7:10 And rescued him out of all his afflictions and gave him favor and wisdom before Pharaoh, king of Egypt, who made him ruler over Egypt and over all his household.

**Authority** - Mark 16:17 And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues;

**Abundance** - John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

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**6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.**

## **Happy from the hunger**

**Hunger & Thirst** = The overwhelming desire to know, experience, and live in the state of His work and nature.

1. Am I still trying to earn my own worth?
2. Am I still trying to impress others?
3. Do I rise and fall on the opinions of others matter?

**FREEDOM:** *Nothing to prove, nothing to lose, nothing to hide, and no one to impress.*

## **The Promise - Shall be satisfied**

**Financial** - Hebrews 13:5 Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

**Weakness** - 2 Corinthians 12:9–10 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

**Changes** - Philippians 4:11–12 Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

**Suffering** - Colossians 1:24 Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church.

**Future** - John 4:13–15 Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to

eternal life.” The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water.”

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**7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.**

## **Happiness from mercy**

**Mercy** = Compassionate toward another. To have long-suffering when expectations are not met. To empathize with another and choose to give the benefit of the doubt.

### **The Promise - Receive Mercy**

God - EPHESIANS 1:7 IN WHOM WE HAVE REDEMPTION THROUGH HIS BLOOD, THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS, ACCORDING TO THE RICHES OF HIS GRACE.

Others - Ephesians 4:32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Debt - Matthew 6:12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Time - acts 3:19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.

Need - Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

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## 8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

### Have the heart

**Pure in heart** = Free of guile and or malice. Everything done and said is with good, sincere, and honest intentions. Operating at a level that is not only legally right but ethically pure.

1. When I do what I should, do I do it with the best intentions?
2. Am I sincere in my words and deeds.

### The Promise - shall see God

**Spouse** - Matthew 19:4-6 "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

**Children** - Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

**Family** - Psalms 133:1 "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!"

**Friends** - Job 42:10 After Job had prayed for his friends, the LORD restored his fortunes and gave him twice as much as he had before.

**Neighbor** - Pro 3:29 "Do not plot harm against your neighbor, who lives trustfully near you."

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

## **Peacemakers are promoted**

**Peacemaker** = One whose deeds, actions, attitudes, and behavior brings about peace.

Are you a peacemaker

1. Willing to shoulder blame
2. Willing to say the hard things for the purposes of healing
3. Willing to be wrongfully accused

## **The Promise - Shall be called sons of God**

**Direction** - Romans 8:14 - For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

**Confidence** - Romans 8:15 - For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"

**Rewarded** - Romans 8:17 - and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

**Unimpeachable** - Rom 8:33 - Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

**Inseparable** - Rom 8:35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?

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

## **Punished for good behavior**

**Righteousness** = Acting and living in a manner pleasing to God and His will. Choosing to believe, behave, and belong to a life that is called and defined by Him.

### **The Promise - The kingdom of God is theirs**

**Value** - Acts 5:41 So they went on their way from the presence of the Council, rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for His name.

**Comfort** - 2Cor 1:7 - and our hope for you is firmly grounded, knowing that as you are sharers of our sufferings, so also you are sharers of our comfort.

**Power** - Phi 3:10 - that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;

**Authority** - 2Tim 2:12 - If we endure, we will also reign with Him; If we deny Him, He also will deny us;

**Favor** - 1Pe 2:20 - For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God.

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**11 "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.**

## When the cool kids are cold

**Revile, persecute, utter all kinds of evil falsely** = To be slandered about, gossiped about, shunned, and treated with disdain simply for simply not going along with the crowd.

## The Promise - double for the trouble

**Prosper** - Jer 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

**Strong** - 1 Peter 5:10 And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

**Resilient** - Isa 40:31 But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

**Complete** - Phi 1:6 Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus

**Celebrated** - Zeph 3:17 The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing.