

## Attitude is Everything Heaven Awaits

### The Beatitudes

Matthew 5: 3-10 Says Jesus said to this multitude:

"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 sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

I. What does Jesus mean by "poor in spirit?"

It simply means to depend on God.

Philippians 2:8 (NCV) When Jesus was living as a man, he humbled himself and was fully obedient to God, even when that caused his death - death on a cross.

II. How do we apply this to our life?

An example from the life of the rich young ruler.

Luke 18:19-25 A certain ruler asked him, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

"Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good—except God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, do not murder, do not steal, do not give false testimony, honor your father and mother.'"

"All these I have kept since I was a boy," he said.

When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was a man of great wealth. Jesus looked at him and said, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

Isaiah 64:6 (GW) We're all sinful and all our righteous acts are like permanently stained rags compared to God's goodness.

Ephesians 2:8-9 (TEV) For it is by God's grace that you have been saved through faith. It is not the result of your own efforts, but God's gift, so that no one can boast about it.

III. Blessings that comes from being "poor in spirit" ...

1. Reduces stress.
2. Improves my relationships.
3. Releases God's power.

James 4:6 (LB) God gives strength to the humble, but He sets himself against the proud.

Matthew 5:3 (NIV) Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

John 13:17 (GN) Now that you know the truth, how happy you will be if you put it into practice!