

THE MINISTRY OF BLESSINGS, Part 1

INTRODUCTION

- Blessing is the pronouncement of God's _____
- The focus on the beatitudes is on God's _____ blessedness and entering the kingdom of h _____

BLESSED ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT, FOR THEIRS IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

- The rich man's wealth wasn't the issues. It was his cov _____ of wealth
- What does it mean to be "rich" in spirit (like the Pharisee)? _____
- To be poor in spirit is to know that you live because of God's g _____ and m _____. It is to know that you need, nay, that you _____ have Christ Jesus.

"Poverty of spirit is the posture of faith. God pours out his grace to the spiritually bankrupt, for only they are open to believe and receive his grace and salvation. He does this with no one else. No one can enter the kingdom without poverty of spirit. Kent Hughes

- The essence of the Kingdom of Heaven is sp _____ in nature. The Kingdom of Heaven is not just some far off blessing, but it is a pr _____ blessing.

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO MOURN, FOR THEY SHALL BE COMFORTED

- The first beatitude points more to the intellect. This one is coupled with emo _____.
- We mourn over our s _____.
- True mourning leads to re _____ which lead to life and j _____. (see 2 Corinthians 7:9-10, Nehemiah 8:9-10)
- Where there is mourning over sin, there is comfort and joy in _____ and his gospel. For the _____ is the pronouncement of God's blessing upon all who believe.

BLESSED ARE THE MEEK, FOR THEY SHALL INHERIT THE EARTH

- When you think of meek, what are some things that come to mind? _____

Then read Psalm 37:1-11

- Fret not. What does "to fret" mean? _____
- When we fret about things outside of our control, it only increases our anxiousness, our worry. It makes us full of dis- _____
- According to Psalm 37, to be meek is to T _____ in the Lord, D _____ in the LORD, C _____ your way to the LORD.
- The promise for those who are meek is a new heaven and a new _____ where there is no more pain and suffering. (see Revelation 21:3-4)

HEAR & APPLY THE WORD

1. Ponder how poor you are in spirit but rich in Christ
2. Mourn for your sin but be comforted and rejoice in the Gospel
3. Be meek in Lord and commit your ways unto God

