

A scenic landscape featuring a large, leafy tree in the foreground on the right. The sun is positioned behind the tree, creating a bright starburst effect. The background shows a cityscape under a hazy, golden sky, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall mood is peaceful and inspirational.

*Those Who Have the Kingdom
of God Are Those
Who Mourn & Are Blessed*

THE BEATITUDES (2)

What Jesus presents in the Beatitudes is not a pathway to Heaven, He was not saying, “do these things to earn salvation.” He was outlining the qualities of someone who has come near to the Kingdom, who has become a disciple of Christ & who has made the Kingdom of God his own possession. So Jesus wasn't preaching the do attitudes, what He is offering is a new way of being.

From that time Jesus began to preach, saying,
“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Matthew 4:17

And He said to them, “Follow Me,
and I will make you fishers of men.”

Matthew 4:19

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.
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Matthew 5:3–7

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.

Matthew 5:8–12

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

Matthew 5:4

Blessed: Greek = Makarios

Mourn

Comfort

Blessed (happy, to be envied, and spiritually prosperous— with life-joy and satisfaction in God's favour and salvation, regardless of their outward conditions) are the poor in spirit (the humble, who rate themselves insignificant), for theirs is the kingdom of heaven!

Matthew 5:3

Blessed and enviably happy [with a happiness produced by the experience of God's favour and especially conditioned by the revelation of His matchless grace] are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted!

Matthew 5:4

We are blessed as we understand the size, the magnitude and scope of our sin because we can begin to receive a greater understanding of His mercy and grace.

Mourn: Greek = Pentheo

In the New Testament it is generally used in the context of mourning over sin

Jesus quotes **Isaiah 61** in **Luke 4:18-19**

- 18.** The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
- 19.** to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.
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Luke 4:18-19

... to comfort those who mourn in Zion

Isaiah 61:3

As those working in the harvest & as we counsel those coming into the body of Christ, we need to be careful to avoid this cultural tendency to try & quickly comfort a person who seems to be grieving over their sin. We need to understand that it is the Lord Himself Who brings a person to a place of mourning & grieving so that He can do a work in that person & bring them to a place of blessing.

Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.

2 Corinthians 7:10 (NIV)

For godly grief and the pain God is permitted to direct, produce a repentance that leads and contributes to salvation and deliverance from evil, and it never brings regret; but worldly grief (the hopeless sorrow that is characteristic of the pagan world) is deadly [breeding and ending in death].

2 Corinthians 7:10 (Amplified Bible)

Comfort: Greek = Parakaleo

Para: = to come alongside.

Kaleo: = to exhort, comfort and encourage

Blessed be the God and Father of our
Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies
and God of all comfort.

2 Corinthians 1:3

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

John 14:26

But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, He will bear witness about Me.

John 15:26

Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

James 4:8

God **IS** holy by nature and holy by virtue. He is not only grieved by sin, He cannot look upon it. He abhors it. If sin wasn't as abhorrent to God as it is, then He would not have had His only begotten and dearly loved Son die on the cross to redeem us from it.

... He fell on His face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will."

Matthew 26:39

There is **NO** other way for our sin to be justly and rightly dealt with.

Those who dwell in the Kingdom & who have the Kingdom of God ruling & reigning in their own hearts will be those who will be deeply grieved & mourn with true bitterness over sin. Both the sin they see in the world & the sin that they encounter in their own lives. As they do truly grieve & mourn, then His grace & blessing are bestowed upon them & they receive His mercy & comfort both now & in the age to come. This is an on-going process, because we are not yet perfect, nor yet in Christ's full likeness – we still sin.

By allowing the Holy Spirit to bring conviction of sin in our life, we are then able to confess it, to repent of it & forsake it. We are then re-positioned to receive His blessing & favour & comfort.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light.

1 Peter 2:9

For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God;
and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those
who do not obey the gospel of God?

1 Peter 4:17

But who can endure the day of His coming,
and who can stand when He appears? For He
is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap.

Malachi 3:2

And when He (the Holy Spirit) comes, He will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment.

John 16:8

We need to have a heightened sensitivity to sin, but also be re-attuned to the conviction of the Holy Spirit, as He brings to our attention our sins that need dealing with. But while that's His role as Holy Spirit, ultimately, it needs to be us who responds.

As Kingdom citizens we ought to come back to the place where we each have a biblical fear of the Lord & holy abhorrence to sin, all sin.

We each need to have a clear understanding or perhaps divine inspiration of how even as Kingdom citizens, our sin still grieves the Holy Spirit.

Even though our sins have been forgiven, our Heavenly Father is still unable to look upon sin & He cannot abide by sin no matter our heavenly citizenship. God has not changed, He is still Holy and our sin is still abhorrent to Him. Because He cannot abide by it, we must deal with it.

Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter
be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom.

James 4:9

... then comfort, joy, blessedness and favour will
come from the Lord, not the other way around.

25. ... Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,
26. so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,
27. that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

Ephesians 5:25b -27

Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things,
be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless
and blameless.

2 Peter 3:14

Search me, O God, and know my heart;
Try me and know my anxious thoughts.

Psalms 139:23

Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.

Acts 3:19

Isn't that a glorious promise?

Not only are our sins wiped away now, not sometime in the future, but the promise of refreshing is also for now. And times of refreshing & comfort will come from the presence of the Lord Himself!

What could be possibly be better than to dwell in His presence?