

# Beatitudes - Basis for a Happy Life

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## Summary

It's good to remember that the Beatitudes are pronouncements. They're not commands. They're celebrations! The Beatitudes represent a new way of life based on a new way of thinking Christ enables.

-Pastor Charles R. Swindoll

## Read the Passage: Matthew 5:1-12

Make Observations while reading the text.

## Main Idea in the text:

The Beatitudes describe the attitudes that ought to be in the believer's life

## Beatitudes Defined

- **Poor in Spirit:** Utterly dependent on God for mercy and grace.
- **Mourn:** Christians mourn because they sense their spiritual poverty and need.
- **Meek:** Gentle, free from malice or bitterness, humility toward others.
- **Hunger and Thirst:** Not for salvation but for personal Holiness, right acting.
- **Mercy:** Withhold Judgement, show mercy to others.
- **Pure in heart:** Morally pure, cooperate with God's Spirit to purify us.
- **Peacemakers:** Help people to reconcile to God, work to live at peace with others.
- **Persecution:** Christians will become targets of the unrighteous.

<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>Blessing</b>
Realize need for God	Heaven
Mourn	Comfort
Meek/Humble	Will be rewarded in Heaven
Hunger and Thirst	Satisfied
Merciful	Will receive mercy
Pure in heart	See God
Peacemakers	Children of God
Persecuted for doing right	Heaven

### **Application**

Martyn Lloyd Jones suggested four general lessons that the Beatitudes teach:

1. **All Christians** are to be like this, not just some.
2. All Christians are meant to manifest **all these characteristics**, not just some.
3. None of these characteristics refers to one's natural tendencies; **they are all produced by the Holy Spirit** in the Christian.
4. These characteristics clearly indicate the **essential difference between the Christian and the Non-Christian**.

### **Discussion Questions**

1. Do you hunger and thirst for His Kingdom and all of its blessings?
  
2. Why do we settle for the possessions in this world when the riches of God are ours to enjoy?
  
3. Which characteristics of the beatitudes describes you in your life.
  
4. Which beatitudes are the most difficult to model?