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## Be Blessed Christian

*By Taylor Braswell on November 30, 2021*

**READING:** Matthew 5

In Matthew 5:2-12, Jesus lists attributes of His followers and calls them blessed. The word for “blessed” used here implies a happiness and joy found in Christ! These Christian attributes are not how we live *in order* to be loved by God. They will be evident in our lives if we are truly finding joy in a relationship with Christ *because* we are loved by God.

Being poor in spirit does not mean that you believe you have no value. It means you understand you are spiritually bankrupt and in need of Christ. The starting point of Christianity is understanding your need for a savior! Those who mourn are blessed because they know this fallen world we experience is a result of sin. Christians should long for God’s forgiveness and for the day when Christ returns to make all things new! Christians should be meek because Christ is meek. Being meek means being gentle towards others and trusting in God’s sovereignty. We should hunger and thirst for righteousness because we know that our lives are meant to be a billboard for God’s glory! God is our source of satisfaction in life, and we should want others to know him.

Christians who show mercy are not doing so in order to receive mercy. Rather, they are Christians because they have been shown mercy from God already! Christians realize we deserve hell, and that through Christ we get eternal life. How can anyone who has been given this mercy not want to show mercy to others? The pure in heart are striving to be Christ-like and kill the sin in their life. The peacemakers are those who understand God made peace with us through the death of His Son! Brothers and sisters, if you live a life following Jesus, you will be persecuted, but take heart, it is worth it.

**PRAYER:** Father, help me examine my own life to see if I am living how You have called me to live. Sanctify me as I grow more like Christ so that I can point those around me to You.

**TOMORROW'S READING:** Matthew 6

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