

(Topics and Lead-in Below)

Beatitudes Hymn

TUNE: Take My Life, and Let It Be (HENDON)
Matthew 5:3-12; Luke 6:20-26

♩ = 80

F C E C7 F F Dm B♭M7 $\frac{Gm}{B♭}$ Gm

1. Lov - ing Fa - ther, al - ways here, In our need You
2. From Your glo - ry light is born. Here we see our -
3. Mer - cy flows as we be - lieve. Now we give as
4. Peace in You is peace pro - found. Help us live it

$\frac{E}{C}$ C C7 F F C $\frac{F}{C}$ $\frac{C7}{E}$ $\frac{Am}{C}$ F sus F

draw us near, Weak in all we think and do,
selves and mourn, Hum - bled as we glimpse the truth.
we re - ceive, Ves - sels of Your heal - ing grace.
all a - round, Peace com - plete though prob - lems press,

$\frac{E}{A}$ B♭ $\frac{E}{A}$ $\frac{C}{G}$ $\frac{C7}{G}$ F sus F $\frac{F}{C}$ C Dm C F $\frac{Gm}{B♭}$ $\frac{E}{C}$ C F

Ev - er poor but rich in You, Ev - er poor but rich in You.
Emp - ty, Lord, we thirst for You. Emp - ty, Lord, we thirst for You.
Pure in heart, we see Your face. Pure in heart, we see Your face.
Rich, e - ter - nal bless - ed - ness, Rich, e - ter - nal bless - ed - ness.

WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: Henri A. Cesar Malan

HENDON
7.7.7.7.

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TOPICS: All Saints' Day; God's Presence; Holiness; Living in Christ; Peace in Christ; Repentance & Forgiveness; Serving in Christ's Name

LEAD-IN: *When [Jesus] saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them, saying:*

*"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.*

*"Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all
kinds of evil against you because of me.*

*Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same
way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."*
(Matthew 5:1-12, NIV)

LEAD-IN DEVOTIONAL READING:

All the Best of Life

*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.*
*Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil
against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven,
for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. (Matthew 5:3-12,
NIV)*

God's recipe for success is completely different than ours. Human society seems to prize people that are strong, self-confident, positive, and assertive, pursuing goals that provide themselves and others with more money or enhanced physical life. Are they a bit selfish? No problem. Who isn't?

But Jesus alone has experienced both life on earth and an eternity in heaven. He has seen it all, and here is His description of the person truly blessed by God: poor in spirit; mourning; meek; hungering and thirsting for righteousness; merciful; pure in heart; making peace; suffering persecution for obeying God.

What an unlikely set of qualifications for success! None of the qualifications are strength, skill, material goods, or human accomplishment. All flow from a focus on God and the humility that results.

Here are the gifts God gives these blessed ones: the Kingdom of heaven; His comfort; rulership of the entire earth; righteousness in abundance; mercy; the privilege of seeing God and being His children.

None of these gifts of God are material. All are blessings on the inner, eternal person, and all outlast this world. Jesus, the only person with a complete and accurate view of life, urges us to prize these gifts.

*Father, I want to please You.
May that always be my one goal and desire.
And may that desire shape
my heart, my thoughts, and my daily life.*

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