

A Godly Life Laid Forth

Matt 5:1-12

Chapter 5:1-12

The kingdom minded-man preaches about a kingdom minded follower.

Q: In light of scripture, verse 2 here, what do we make of the phrase “preach the gospel, use words if necessary.” How important are Jesus words? What kind of impact do they have?

Christ used words and actions. The revelation of God comes through words. Actions all by themselves can make an incredible impact and invite incredible curiosity but if they never meet the truth in word they may never fulfill their greatest purpose.

Q: How do we take the message of these verses? Are they simple and moral, something anyone can attain to?

These characteristics are only attained truly in Christ. Only a woman, a man who has come under God can truly exemplify these characteristics and only Christ did it perfectly.

Q: Are they literal or spiritual, both?

These verses are as straightforward as can be yet each also has a deep spiritual meaning.

Q: What does being poor in spirit mean and why is it a good thing?

Being poor in spirit is realizing you don't have much to offer. Cheerleaders try to build up spirit. God wants us to realize He has The Spirit. To realize you don't have it but God does is right where God wants us. Those who are beaten down by life and come to God will be built up by God. Pride is not God's way. Jesus commends the churches in Smyrna and Philadelphia in Revelation 2 and 3 for being “poor yet rich” and for having “little strength.” What is low in the world's eyes is not low in God's eyes.

Q: Why is mourning good?

Being able to grieve before God or anyone is a sign of intimacy. It's a sign of being vulnerable and opens us up to encouragement, healing and recovery. When we can't open up to others we hold it inside and often delay or even put off healing altogether. Jesus openly mourned. It is not a sign of weakness but a sign of strength of personal character and a sign of trust in the one you've poured your heart out to.