

The Sermon on the Mount.

Character

Jesus sits as King, unfolding the principles and laws of His Kingdom. In these opening sentences, He reveals the character and genius of the Kingdom of Heaven.

Lessons

1. Isa Lxi.

2. Matt: v. 3-12.

Hymns.

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186.

185.

Chant 121.

Anthem 61.

How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds
"Rest of the weary, joy of the sad"
"One Lord there is, all lords above"

Character is the result of the conditions which surround it. The character of the Kingdom of Heaven is the result of the conditions which surround it. The Kingdom of Heaven is a Kingdom of Love, and its laws are laws of Love. The Kingdom of Heaven is a Kingdom of Peace, and its laws are laws of Peace. The Kingdom of Heaven is a Kingdom of Joy, and its laws are laws of Joy. The Kingdom of Heaven is a Kingdom of Life, and its laws are laws of Life. The Kingdom of Heaven is a Kingdom of Light, and its laws are laws of Light. The Kingdom of Heaven is a Kingdom of Truth, and its laws are laws of Truth. The Kingdom of Heaven is a Kingdom of Righteousness, and its laws are laws of Righteousness. The Kingdom of Heaven is a Kingdom of Holiness, and its laws are laws of Holiness. The Kingdom of Heaven is a Kingdom of Grace, and its laws are laws of Grace. The Kingdom of Heaven is a Kingdom of Mercy, and its laws are laws of Mercy. The Kingdom of Heaven is a Kingdom of Kindness, and its laws are laws of Kindness. The Kingdom of Heaven is a Kingdom of Gentleness, and its laws are laws of Gentleness. The Kingdom of Heaven is a Kingdom of Patience, and its laws are laws of Patience. The Kingdom of Heaven is a Kingdom of Self-control, and its laws are laws of Self-control. The Kingdom of Heaven is a Kingdom of Faith, and its laws are laws of Faith. The Kingdom of Heaven is a Kingdom of Hope, and its laws are laws of Hope. The Kingdom of Heaven is a Kingdom of Love, and its laws are laws of Love.

The Sermon on the Mount.

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Character. Matt. V. 3-12.

Introductory.

Jesus sits as King, unfolding the principles and laws of His Kingdom.

In these opening sentences, He reveals the character and genius of the Kingdom of heaven Human Ideas.

- { Race Power.
- { military Prowess.
- { Outward Splendour.

Himself + His teaching combine to ignore, and so deny these conceptions.

Scheme.

- A. A revelation of general principles.
- B. Particular revelation of character.

A. General Principles.

i. "Blessed"

That reveals Gods will for man, and so reveals the purpose of the King, and the atmosphere of the Kingdom.

The word (makarios) is translated in the A.V. "Blessed" 43 times, and "Happy" 6.

ii. "Blessed are"

Happiness depends on being, not on doing or having.

iii. "Blessed are --- for."

Character creates conditions which result in happiness. E.G. "Blessed are the pure in heart, --"

The character of heart purity results in the vision of God, which is happiness.

So the happiness of the Kingdom is a natural sequence rather than an arbitrary reward.

iv. The Order

- a. Personal. No 1 + 2.
- b. The rest alternate between Divine and Social relation.

B. Particular revelation of character.

i. "Poor... their's is"

- a. Conscious need.
- b. ~~True~~ subjects - Free men.

ii. "Mourn... comforted"

- a. On recognition of need.
- b. Radical. Cleansing. Resultant Peace.

iii. "The meek... inherit"

- a. First social word. No retaliation.

iv. "Hunger"

- a. Divine discontent
- b. Now + eventually.

v. "Merciful"

- a. Those who give + serve.
- b. Obtain.

vi. "Pure"

- a. Result of foregoing.
- b. See God.

vii. "Peacemakers"

- a. Last Social word. Based on all the foregoing. Propagative character.
- b. Sons of God.

The final blessed touch a condition of process.

Application

In proportion as I realize this character I realize happiness.

Such realization will stir up opposition, and at the same time cement the foundations of the Kingdom.

The Sabbatic "Blessed"