

College of the Scriptures

Greater Christ Temple APOSTOLIC CHURCH

2940 S. Anthony Blvd. Fort Wayne, IN 46806
Wednesday Evening Bible Study 6:00 PM

“Blessed”

Part 01

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GreaterCTC.org



Blessed Are The Poor In Spirit

Matthew 5:1-3

1 And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. **2** Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying: **3** "Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

- Blessed: (Gk. "makarios") = Favored, fortunate, happy, supremely joyful, gifted (having received a gift)
- Poor: (Gk. "ptochos") = to crouch, to cringe, to crawl, a **begger**, a pauper (a humbled person)

- Favored, fortunate, happy, supremely joyful, and gifted are those who are made to crawl, to crouch, to beg a paupers, and those who are humbled (made low)? What is the meaning of this? What does it mean to be “poor in spirit”?
- It is when a person’s inward experience is one of spiritual poverty. This poverty of the spirit is not in reference to the condition (actuality) of one’s spirit, but instead the disposition (frame of mind) of one’s spirit wherein one is emptied (poor) of self in order that one might deeply desire (beg) to be filled (rich, overflowing) with the Spirit and mind of Jesus Christ.
- The poor in spirit is one who realizes that he/she cannot save themselves, that they are without an ability to glorify themselves. To be poor in spirit is to be without the vanity of pride.

- The spiritually poor have a keen sense of their own wretchedness and need for God's grace (undeserved mercy).
- This poverty of spirit is a prerequisite to acquiring the other beatitudes. Spiritual beggars who have abandoned pride and self-sufficiency and who are completely dependent on God for support are in a position to assume the mournful, meek, spiritually hungry, merciful, pure, peaceful, and persevering disposition suggested by the other beatitudes.
- The holy scriptures are full of examples of those who exhibited this blessed frame of mind:

Luke 18:13

13 And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!'

- **The attitude of Gideon**

Judges 6:15

15 So he said to Him, "O my Lord, how can I save Israel? Indeed my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house."

- **The attitude of Isaiah**

Isaiah 6:5

5 So I said: "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The Lord of hosts."

- **The LORD displayed this attitude while here in the flesh**

John 5:30

30 I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.

John 14:10

10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works.

- **It was the thinking of the apostle Paul**

Phil 3:8

8 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ

- **It was the way of thinking of the apostle Peter**

Luke 5:8

8 When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!"

- Theirs is the kingdom of heaven. The Kingdom of grace is composed of such as assume this spiritually poor disposition, only these are fit to be members of Christ's Kingdom, the Church, which is called the congregation of the poor, the Kingdom of glory is prepared for them. Those who humble themselves and comply with God when he humbles them shall be exalted. The self-exalting, self-important, self-glorifying, self-worthy, self-centered, and self-absorbed go away with the glory of the kingdoms of the earth, but the humble, mild, and yielding souls obtain the glory of the Kingdom of Heaven!

Blessed are the poor in spirit!



Greater Christ Temple
APOSTOLIC CHURCH



August 30, 2020

CHURCH IN THE PARK!

Lakeside Park (Pavilion #2)

1401 Lake Ave. Fort Wayne, IN 46805

Sunday School - 9:00 AM

Wear your favorite GreaterCTC shirt!

Morning Worship - 10:30 AM

Mark A. Haywood, senior pastor

Fellowship Cookout - following service!

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