

Blessings and Woes

l) Introduction

A) I don't know if you know this but Jesus was different.

- 1) Different kind of teacher
- 2) Jesus was not like the scribes or teachers of the law
- 3) He was different than the ones they were used to
- 4) Jesus taught with authority
- 5) One thing that Jesus did not do was he did not add to the ritualistic mantra the Pharisees and teachers taught, or the way it has been done, but He was teaching something new and completely different
- 6) First realization
 - a) Sophomore at New Hanover High School
 - b) New Testament Survey
 - c) Going through Luke
 - d) When I first heard this passage it didn't make sense Jesus taught one thing and what I knew was different. Not just a little different, it was opposites. Let's go to the text

And turning His gaze toward His disciples, He began to say, Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who hunger now, for you shall be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh. "Blessed are you when men hate you, and ostracize you, and insult you, and scorn your name as evil, for the sake of the Son of Man. Be glad in that day and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven For in the same way their fathers used to treat the prophets. But woe to you who are rich, for you are receiving your comfort in full. "Woe to you who are well-fed now, for you shall be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep. "Woe to you when all men speak well of you, for their fathers used to treat the false prophets in the same way.

Luke 6:20-26

II) **Poor vs. Rich**

A) Blessed are you who are poor

- 1) **We know Jesus is not talking about a physical poor**
 - a) **He speaks on this in other places**
- 2) **When reading scripture you have to know it's not 66 different stories**
 - a) **The Bible is One complete Story**
 - b) **So let's go to Matthew 5**
- 3) **Matthew 5 says "Blessed is the Poor in Spirit"**
 - a) **Blessed is the one**
 - b) **Happy is the one**
 - c) **Fortunate is the one**
- 4) **Who understands he is spiritually poor**
- 5) **Jesus is saying blessed is the man who understands he cannot cut it, he is not good enough, spiritually**
- 6) **Romans says that on our best day we fall short**
 - a) **Especially in the first three chapters**
 - b) **Everybody gets it that on our worst day we fall short but in Romans Paul is saying that on our best day we fall short**
 - c) **This makes more sense when you understand who Paul was**
 - i) **Paul Pharisee of Pharisees**
 - ii) **Circumcised the eighth day**
 - iii) **Hebrew of Hebrews**
 - iv) **Paul Pharisee of Pharisees**
 - v) **Blameless in the law**
 - vi) **And Paul said all have sinned and fall short to the glory of God (even me, Paul)**

7) We understand what Jesus was talking about when Jesus quoted Isaiah,

“And the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. And He opened the book and found the place where it was written, The spirit of the lord is upon me, because he anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, to proclaim the favorable year of the lord.” Luke 4:17-19

8) And we understand it even more when find out who get enraged at Jesus’ teachings

9) Jesus said this is how it is done, and now he is going to say this is how it’s not done

10) Go down to verse 24, Woe to you who are rich

a) Jesus is saying woe to you who think you have got it all worked out

b) Woe to you who think by your religious ritualistic activities you have earned God’s grace

c) Jesus is all of the time saying you think because you wash the outside of your body that you are clean and I say that it is not what goes into the mouth that makes a man clean but what comes out.

d) Woe to you who think by your religious traditions that you’re in

e) Why because you think your rich enough but you’re not, you’re deceiving yourself

11) The Pharisees are always getting mad at Jesus

a) Why did they get mad?

b) Because Jesus is saying you are not good enough

c) Jesus said unless your righteousness surpasses the Pharisees you will not enter the kingdom of Heaven, the Pharisees were not righteous enough, and they followed the law to the letter

B) So blessed is the man who understands he can’t cut because the truth is he can’t, so Blessed is the man why because his is Kingdom of God

C) Were celebrating Thanksgiving right now so I am going to try to turn everything back to being thankful

1) Isn’t this the most important thing to be thankful for

- 2) **I have heard a lot of people teach and preach on evangelism**
 - a) **Tell them you don't want to go to hell, Right?**
 - b) **Tell them you want to go to Heaven, Right?**
 - c) **That's why you should believe**
- 3) **No, what about**
 - a) **You have the opportunity to worship God**
 - b) **You have the opportunity to give praise and thanksgiving to God who created everything**
 - c) **You can be in Gods Kingdom.**

III) Hungry vs. Full

A) Lets Continue on

B) Blessed are the Hungry

C) We cannot be talking about you who are hungry because you haven't eaten dinner yet and its almost 7

D) Go back to Matthew 5

- 1) **Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled**

E) We must read this as one building on the one before

- 1) **So blessed is the man**

- 2) **Happy is the man**

- 3) **Changed is the man**

- a) **Who understands is spiritually poor before God and is unable to earn right standing before God**

- 4) **And next**

- 5) **Blessed is the man**

- 6) **Happy is the man**

- 7) **Changed is the man**

- a) Who hungers after God's righteousness
- 8) Why?
- a) Because if you hunger and thirst after righteousness you're going to be fed
 - b) The words hunger and thirst here are the verb forms of the word the reason being it is not a place where you are
 - c) Merriam-Webster's dictionary defines the noun form of this word
 - i) Remember I am going to be reading the noun form of this word
 - (i) This is what I am saying it is not
 - ii) A craving or urgent need for food or a specific nutrient, an uneasy sensation occasioned by the lack of food, a weakened condition brought about by prolonged lack of food.
 - d) It is not when you are hungry, but when you hunger when you do that is when you will be filled
 - e) There have been many of times when I have been hungry but have hungered
 - f) Do you see the difference
 - g) It is not until I hunger after God that I am going to filled
 - h) But woe to you who are full
 - i) Jesus is saying woe to you who think you are spiritually rich and thus thinking that you are spiritually rich you believe you are full
 - j) Jesus is saying woe to the full why because there not
 - k) If we have already concluded that we are spiritually poor and even if we think we are spiritually rich we are not
 - l) Than we all have to be spiritually hungry and empty even if we think we are full
 - m) But, be thankful that God has not only shown you this but he is going to fill you
 - n) God is not going to live you lacking and hungry
 - o) If you hungry and you hunger after God He is going to fill you he promises you that here

IV) Conclusion

A) Let's run through this one more time

- 1) Blessed are the poor in spirit**
 - a) Blessed is the man who understands he is spiritually poor**
 - b) The only way be poor in spirit is to be poor in spirit**
 - c) You have just have to know you are poor in spirit we all are**
- 2) Blessed are those that hunger and thirst for righteousness**
 - a) Remember we said that this an action**
 - b) How do we do this**
 - i) Read the Bible**
 - ii) Fellowship with those who have the same aspiration**
 - iii) Talk to the only person that is Perfectly Righteous(God)**
 - iv) Ask for righteousness**
 - (i) God said he's going to freely give wisdom**
- 3) Do you know your spiritually poor but are quite hungering after righteous**
 - a) Are hungry but you haven't quite put it into action yet**
 - b) But you want to hunger after God's righteousness**