

The Sermon on the Mount: Introduction and The Beatitudes (Part 1)

Sunday, October 3 / Wednesday, October 6

References: Matthew 5: 1 – 4; Luke 17: 20 – 21; John 16: 33; Revelation 3: 17; 2 Corinthians 4: 17 – 18; John 11: 38 – 44

- What is the setting of the Sermon on the Mount?
- Who is indicated as the audience?
- What is the definition of the word “beatitude”?
- Explain Christ’s use of paradoxes throughout the Beatitudes.
- Define the word “blessed” as used at the beginning of each individual statement and describe how it applies to the specific and general audiences.
- In your own words, what does it mean to be poor in spirit (as opposed to poverty in the material sense)? (see also Revelation 3: 17)
- From Matthew 5: 3, what does it mean that those who are poor in spirit will receive the kingdom of heaven?
- What does Christ mean by describing those who mourn as being blessed?
- How can those who mourn receive the comfort that Christ references?
- How does Christ’s reference to those who mourn relate to the account of Lazarus being raised from the dead as recorded in John 11: 38 – 44?