

The Beatitudes & Attitudes
Matthew 5:3-12
April 4, 2026

The Beatitudes & Attitudes. Matthew 5:3-12.

1. Blessed are the **poor in spirit**, for theirs is the **kingdom of God** . . . **Humility**
2. Blessed are those that **mourn**, for they shall be **comforted** . . . **Repentance**
3. Blessed are the **meek**, for they shall **inherit the earth** . . . **Gentleness**
4. **Blessed** are those who **hunger and thirst for righteousness**,
for they shall be **filled** . . . **Obedience**
5. Blessed are the **merciful** for they shall **receive mercy** . . . **Compassion**
6. Blessed are the **pure in heart** for they shall **see God** . . . **Holiness**
7. Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called Children of God . . . **Disruption**
8. Blessed are those who are persecuted . . . **Conviction**

1. Introduction - Overview

“Because of Christ we give off a sweet scent rising to God, which is recognized by those on the way of salvation - an aroma **redolent** with life.”

2 Corinthians 2:15

Love - Believes
Beatitude #8

Peacemaker - Grieves
Beatitude #7

Mercy - Relieves
Beatitude #5

Grace - Retrieves
Beatitude #6

We continue our journey through the greatest sermon ever given, the Sermon on the Mount and The Beatitudes. The first four Beatitudes of Humility, Repentance, Gentleness and Obedience are all inward in nature. God takes our Old Self and replace it with Himself, a reflection of which mirrors the likeness of His son Jesus Christ. Once the internal hardware is replaced, God asks us to display the Beatitudes of Mercy and Grace to those around us. Mercy relieves the suffering of mankind. Grace retrieves the holiness for mankind.

Peacemaking is final outward Beatitude that God calls us toward in restoring our world back to it's original order and design. Peacemaking first resolves the conflict between God and man and then secondly the conflicts between man and man. It may sound easy on the onset, but when you get down to it, this is harder than it looks. Here's why.

2. Beatitude #7 - A Peacemaker . . . Disrupts! What?

“Blessed are the Peacemakers for they shall be called Children of God.”

Matthew 5:9

“There is no peace now for two reasons: the opposition of Satan and the disobedience of man. The fall of the angels and the fall of man established a world without peace. Satan and man are engaged with the God of peace in a battle for sovereignty . . . The peace of which Christ speaks in this beatitude, and about which the rest of Scripture speaks, is unlike that which the world knows and strives for. God’s peace has nothing to do with politics, armies and navies, forums of nations, or even councils of churches . . . God’s peace, the peace of which the Bible speaks, never evades issues; **it knows nothing of peace at any price.** It does not gloss or hide, rationalize or excuse. **It confronts problems and seeks to solve them, and after the problems are solved it builds a bridge between those who were separated by the problems . . .** (Peace starts with) the inner personal peace that only He can give to the soul of man and that only His children can exemplify . . . **The person who is not willing to disrupt and disturb in God’s name cannot be a peacemaker . . .** Being a peacemaker is essentially the result of a holy life and the call to others to embrace the gospel of holiness.” **John MacArthur, Matthew Commentary, page 210 - 213.**

3. Truceaker or Peacemaker? What are you?

“The essential fact to comprehend is that the peace about which Jesus speaks is more than the absence of conflict and strife; it is the presence of righteousness. Only righteousness can produce the relationship that brings two people together. Men can stop fighting without righteousness, but they cannot live peaceably without righteousness. Righteousness not only puts an end to harm, but it administers the healing of love . . . **the most that man’s peace can offer is a truce . . .** God’s peace not only stops the hostilities but settles the issue and brings the parties together in mutual love and harmony . . . the peace He came to bring us is not peace at any price . . . When believers bring truth to bear on a world that loves falsehood, there will be strife. When believers set God’s standards of righteousness before a world that loves wickedness, there is an inevitable potential for conflict. Yet that is the only way. ” **John MacArthur, Matthew Commentary, page 211.**

What mode do you naturally tend to gravitate towards? Are you just looking for people to stop hurting you or those you care about? Or are you wanting to not just stop the fighting but take the time to dive into the mess to create healing? As an EMT, stopping a blood flow is simple, apply pressure and then hold it. Do you have the courage to hold a messy situation to stop the blood flow long enough to facilitate healing and redemption? As leaders we are called to deal with “messy”. Are you ready?

4. No God? No Peace. Know God? Know Peace.

No God? No peace. Know God? Know peace. That is where true peace starts. Do you want to know God and are you wanting to be known by God? If you have surrendered to his sovereignty and your sin to his redemption, your heart will be transformed and his peace can live inside you. Without God's redemptive work, it's all just smoke and mirrors.

"The great enemy of peace is sin . . . Peace cannot reign where wickedness reigns. Wicked hearts cannot produce a peaceful society. "There is no peace for the wicked", says the Lord. Isaiah 48:22 . . . To talk of peace without talking of repentance of sin is to talk foolishly and vainly . . . "But the wisdom from above is **first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy** and good fruits, unwavering, **without hypocrisy**. And the seed whose fruit is righteousness is **sown in peace** by those who **make peace.**" **James 3:16-18** . . . The bad news of the gospel comes before the good news. Until a person confronts his sin, it makes no sense to offer him a Savior. Until a person faces his false notions, it makes no sense to offer him the truth. Until a person acknowledges his enmity with God, it makes no sense to offer him peace with God." **John MacArthur, Matthew Commentary, page 212-213.**

That is the bad news. We can't have peace on our terms, we need peace on God's terms. But here is where the good news begins to step in and make a profound change in our lives. And we see it start with an Old Testament prophetic proclamation.

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, **Prince of Peace**. Of the increase of his government and of **peace there will be no end**" **Isaiah 9:6-7b**

"But now in Christ Jesus, you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. **For He Himself is our peace.**" **Ephesians 2:13-14.**

"For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fulness to dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile all things to himself, having **made peace** through the blood of His cross." **Colossians 1:19-20**

"**if you confess** with your mouth that Jesus is Lord **and believe** in your heart that God raised him from the dead, **you will be saved.**" **Romans 10:9**

"Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, **we have peace** with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." **Romans 5:1**

"God can work peace through us only if He has worked peace in us."

John MacArthur

Three Pieces of Peacemaking

Seasoning - Reasoning - Reckoning

1. Seasoning - Your presence should be Salt, Light and Life.

“The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, “The Lord, the Lord, a God **merciful and gracious, slow to anger**, and abounding in **steadfast love** and faithfulness.”

Exodus 34:6

Seven times through the pages of scripture God tells us His Name and then what He is like. He appears unable to tell us his name without giving us the four characteristics that define him. Those seven times God gives us his name are found in Exodus 34:6-7, Numbers 14:18, Nehemiah 9:17, Psalm 86:15, Psalm 103:8 and Joel 2:13.

And when you take a closer look at his list of attributes, you should notice not only what they are, but the order in which they are given. Why? Because they are in the exact order of Beatitude 5, 6, 7 & 8. Blessed are the Merciful - Blessed are the Pure in Heart - Blessed are the Peacemakers - Blessed are those Persecuted for Righteousness sake. It's Mercy, Grace, Peacemaker & Love. The Sermon on the Mount has its foundation in the very Name of God.

Do people say your name and feel incomplete if they don't fill in a characteristic or two? What might that characteristic be that should be added after your name is announced? What do people feel like after they have been around you for a time? What do they see? Who do they see? What do they remember that echoes for eternity?

“**You are the salt of the earth**. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? . . . **You are the light of the world**. A city on a hill cannot be hidden, neither do people light a lamp and put it on a bow. Instead they put it on a stand so it gives light to everyone in the room. In the same way let your light shine before men that they may see your good words and praise your Father in heaven.”

Matthew 5:13-17

“Those who look to Him **are radiant**; their faces are never covered in shame.”

Psalm 34:5

“Because of Christ we give off a sweet scent rising to God, which is recognized by those on the way of salvation - **an aroma redolent with life**.”

2 Corinthians 2:15

“When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note **that these men had been with Jesus**.” **Acts 4:13**

2. Reasoning - Your Words should be Salt, Light & Life.

“**So he (Paul) reasoned** in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there.”

Acts 17:17

“Let your speech always be gracious, **seasoned with salt**, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.”

Colossians 4:6-7

“The unfolding of your words **gives light**; it imparts understanding to the simple.”

Psalms 119:105

“A **gentle answer** turns away wrath . . . A **gentle tongue** is a **tree of life**.”

Proverbs 15:1,4

“A good man brings good things out of the good stored up **in his heart**, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart.

For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.”

Luke 6:45

“These commandments that I give you today are to be **on your hearts**. Impress them on your children. **Talk about them** when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.”

Deuteronomy 6:6-7

“Jesus did not let him, but said, “Go home to your own people and **tell them** how much the Lord has done for you, and **how he has had mercy on you**.”

Mark 5:19

“**Do not fear** their threats; **do not be frightened**.” But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. **Always be prepared** to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with **gentleness and respect**, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.”

1 Peter 3:14-16

“Everyone should be **quick to listen, slow to speak** and **slow to become angry**.”

James 1:19-20 - (Beatitude 5, 6 & 7?)

“**Don't worry** how you will respond, and **don't worry** what you will say. The Holy Spirit will give you the words to say **at the moment** when you need them.”

Luke 11:12

3. Reckoning - Inner Grief . . . The Scary Piece to Peace

“As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, **he wept over it** and said,
“If you, even you, had only known on this day **what would bring you peace—**
but now **it is hidden from your eyes.**”

Luke 19:41-42.

“If it is possible, **as far as it depends on you**, live at peace with everyone.”

Romans 12:18

“Son of man, **I have made you a watchman** for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and **give them warning from me**. When I say to a wicked person, ‘You will surely die,’ **and you do not warn them** or speak out to dissuade them from their evil ways in order to save their life, that wicked person will die for their sin, and **I will hold you accountable** for their blood. **But if you do warn** the wicked person and they do not turn from their wickedness or from their evil ways, they will die for their sin; **but you will have saved yourself.**” **Ezekiel 3:17-19**

“If your brother or sister sins, **go and point out their fault**, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a **pagan** or a **tax collector.**”

Matthew 18:15-17

“But when Peter came to Antioch, **I had to oppose him to his face**, for what he did was very wrong.”

Galatians 2:11

“Faithful are the **wounds of a friend.**”

Proverbs 27:6

“It is better to be divided in truth, than to be united in error.

**It is better to speak the truth that hurts and then heals,
than falsehood that comforts and then kills.**

It is better to be hated for telling others the truth,
than being loved for telling them a lie.

To stand alone with the truth,
than to be wrong in the midst of a multitude.”

Pastor Chuck Swindoll

“It is better to be hated for speaking up, than to be loved for remaining silent.”

D. Mike Collins