

The Beatitudes not on the Mount

I. INTRODUCTION.

- A. When we talk about the “Beatitudes,” we generally talk about the ones from the Sermon on the Mount.
- B. Tonight, we’re going to look at “Beatitudes” in the Book of Revelation.

II. BLESSING FOR THOSE WHO HEAR & DO, 1:3.

- A. John pronounced a blessing on those who read & those who heard his prophecy.
 - 1. The Jews would often gather to hear Scripture read—the Christians continued this practice.
 - 2. Not everyone could read & so someone needed to be selected as a “reader.”
 - 3. This shows John considered his book Scripture—only Scripture could be read in church.
 - 4. This shows the people needed to know what John wrote.
- B. The second blessing is for those who keep what is written in the book.
 - 1. It doesn’t do anyone any good to know what Scripture says but not to do it.
 - 2. Js 1:22-25.

III. BLESSING FOR THE DEAD, 14:13.

- A. Those who die in the Lord shall be blessed.
 - 1. The Book of Revelation was written to encourage saints to be faithful in persecution.
 - 2. This would be encouragement—even though they might have to die for the faith, they would be blessed.
 - 3. Not all the dead are blessed—only those who die “in the Lord.”
- B. They are blessed because:
 - 1. They will rest from their labors—they won’t endure any more persecution.
 - 2. Their works follow them—God will remember their faithfulness.

IV. BLESSING FOR THOSE WHO WATCH, 16:15.

- A. Jesus says that he is coming as a thief.
 - 1. His coming is unannounced—No signs.
 - 2. No one knows when this coming is—regardless of what people say.
- B. Blessed are:
 - 1. Those who watch:
 - a. We must watch, i.e., be alert, because we do not know when he is coming.
 - b. Mt 25:13.
 - 2. Keep his garments.

V. BLESSING FOR THOSE INVITED TO THE MARRIAGE FEAST, 19:9.

- A. This is the consummation of Jesus’ marriage to his bride, the church.
 - 1. Oriental weddings lasted several days, and the marriage supper played an important role.
 - 2. The church is the bride of Christ (cf. Eph 5:25).
 - 3. This is in contrast to the harlot.
- B. We, as Christians, are invited to this feast.
- C. These are the true sayings of God.
 - 1. There can’t be a false saying of God!
 - 2. This is true—you can take it to the bank.

VI. BLESSING FOR THOSE WHO ARE RESURRECTED, 20:6.

- A. Those who share in the first resurrection are blest.
 - 1. First resurrection refers to restoration (cf. Ezek 37:11-13).
 - 2. Those who are faithful share in the first resurrection.
- B. Blessings:
 - 1. Second death has no power.
 - a. The second death refers to hell (Rv 21:8).

- b. Those who are faithful will not go there!
- 2. They shall be priests of God & of Christ.
 - a. All Christians are priests; there isn't a special priesthood.
 - c. Therefore, we can go directly to God in prayer.
- 3. They shall reign a thousand years.
 - a. We reign through prayer.
 - b. Rv 8:3-5.

VII. BLESSING FOR THOSE WHO KEEP THE WORDS OF THIS PROPHECY, 22:7.

- A. Jesus says he is coming quickly.
 - 1. His coming refers to his coming against the Roman Empire.
 - 2. He says, "I'm coming in judgment, so be ready."
- B. Jesus blessed those who do the words written in this book.
 - 1. This is not merely knowing the book.
 - 2. Doing is important.

VIII. BLESSING ON THOSE WHO DO HIS COMMANDMENTS, 22:14.

- A. Jesus blesses those who do his commandments.
- B. They have the right.
 - 1. To the tree of life.
 - a. The tree of life first appears in Genesis & reappears in Revelation.
 - b. The tree of life is no longer kept from man.
 - c. We won't have to die—we'll have the right to the tree of life.
 - 2. To enter the city by the gates.
 - a. This was the only way into ancient cities.
 - b. We can't break into the city.

IX. CONCLUSION.

- A. These passages speak much about doing.
- B. Are you doing the will of God?