

Lessons from the Sermon of Jesus on the Mountain Part 1

“1 And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him: 2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying, 3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. 5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. 6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. 7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. 8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. 9 Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. 10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. 12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.” (Matthew 5:1-12 KJV)

“1 And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:” (Matthew 5:1 KJV) In the passage that we had just read, Jesus noticed the multitude that was following Him, and when He saw them He went up into a mountain either to pray or to be alone with His disciple, or He move to that place so that He can receive the multitude with His disciples. The most probable reason for Jesus to move to the mountain is to receive the increasing crowd, and if we will read further, at the end of His sermon on the mountain, then we can see that the multitudes were with Him and they were astonished of His teaching, ***“28 And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: 29 For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.” (Matthew 7:28-29 KJV)*** So the sermon of Jesus on the mountain was not delivered only to His disciples but was given to the whole crowd.

And when he was set; His disciples came unto him: Jesus prepared Himself to teach by sitting down, and when He did that His disciples came to Him, and later on the crowd joined Him to learn from Him by hearing His Word. The Jewish's tradition for the teacher to teach is by sitting down and the disciples or the students to stand up and learn. Now it is opposite the teacher will stand up and the students or the disciples to sit down. Now the Word of God is less valued, that is why it is treated with less respect. When teaching is less valued by the people then they will pay less respect, less honor and less effort to learn and finally to obey.

Now with people less valuing the Word of God, the teacher would stand to convince the people, while the disciples are sitting down to express their less appreciation to the Word of God. The Word of God should always be valued by the people, by the church, and by the disciples. The more the people are degrading the Word of God and those who teach them, then the less of God's blessing will come into the people's lives.

Today we need to change the setting. We need to value and appreciate the Word of God and give proper respect and honor to those who teach us and admonish us in the Lord. We need to do that so what God had promised in His Word, of blessings, grace and peace, will come true in our lives.

“2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying:” (Matthew 5:2 KJV) Jesus opened His mouth to speak the Word of God to His disciples. He opened His mouth to speak loudly and clearly the Word of God to His disciples, and even to the multitudes that were following Him. *We need to open our mouths to speak clearly and loudly to the people to instruct them with God's Word.* Jesus opened His mouth to satisfy His disciples with God's Word, to fill them, to feed them with God's Word and to heal them and to give them direction in life, and in the ministry and to their future. *Once we set our minds and thoughts to preach the gospel and reach the people around us with God's Word, then once we open our mouths God will give us His Word to feed the people, and to teach them of what they need to sustain their lives.*

“3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven:” (Matthew 5:3 KJV) *The poor in the spirit, are not those who are poor in material things or have less valuable treasure. But the poor in the spirit are those who see themselves they don't have much spiritually in compare to the spiritual and Heavenly riches of God.*

The poor in the spirit, they are the one who does value the Kingdom of God and who cherish to get the things of God; they are not high or proud in the spirit. They don't mind the worldly things, and who do not count them of worth to gain them.

The poor in the spirit are not arrogant and they don't consider themselves having any valuable things in compare to what they aim to receive from God and to be in His Kingdom.

But the arrogant, the high minded and those who think themselves rich they are not blessed.

Those who are high and arrogant in the spirit they are not aware of their poverty and their nakedness and miserable situation. The church in Laodiceans was in such deteriorated spiritual situation: ***“14 And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; 15 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. 16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. 17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: 18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. 19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. 20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. 21 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. 22 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.” (Revelation 3:14-22 KJV)***

Those who are proud and arrogant in the spirit, they think that they had attained the level that God wants them to be; they are high nose and arrogant and they look down on others thinking that they have things others they don't have. But they have not reached the perfection level. They did not become hot or cold, they did not reach the level of perfection,

but they are lukewarm. Jesus **the Amen, the faithful and true witness** knows their spiritual status and their work, and He will vomit them because they are lukewarm and they are neither yet reaching to the level of His expectation nor they are doing their best to attain that. Jesus said to them and about them, **“15 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. 16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.”** (Revelation 3:15-16 KJV) They are proud and they brag that they are rich and have increase. They brag that they need nothing, but in truth they are wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked. But let us notice one important point here, that Jesus is angry with them and He will vomit them not because they are lukewarm but because they are not seeing that they are miserable and in a deteriorating spiritual condition. They are very poor but they cannot see their lack, **“17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked.”** (Revelation 3:17 KJV) The Word of God described them that they are as the following:

1. Wretched:
2. Miserable:
3. Poor:
4. Blind:
5. Naked:

Jesus counseled them to humble down and come to Him seeing their lack and to ask Him help and support and to get from Him their needs. Jesus said come to me you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest, **“28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”** (Matthew 11:28-30 KJV) We need to humble down, accept our weaknesses, accept our inadequacies and come to the Lord with all our weaknesses. Some people they are so ashamed to express their needs or to express their weaknesses before the Lord. We need to:

1. **To come to the Lord:** We need to understand that we are far from the Lord and we need to move and draw near to Him.
2. **To take His yoke:** We are called to be yoked with Him. Go with Him step by step. Especially at this time of trials and hardships we need to be yoked with the Lord, and we need to walk faithfully and closely with Him so he can take us out of the trials.
3. **To learn from Him:** The Lord would teach us of what we need to do. We will learn from His attitude and from His character and will be directed into the right decision, and to the measures that we need to take.

Here Jesus, in His message to the Laodiceans, His purpose was to send them aid and relief and to rescue them from their deteriorating spiritual condition:

“18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear;

and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.” (Revelation 3:18 KJV) They needed and we need today to buy from Jesus the followings:

1. **Gold tried in the fire, “gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich:”** To buy from Jesus gold tried in fire; it means to buy something valuable, tried, and tested, that will truly satisfy them and satisfy us and make us people of value to God. We need to get from Jesus the valuable things that we lack in our lives.

2. **White raiment.** **“white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear:”** In addition they needed white raiment; the white raiment is the righteousness acts of the saints that they don’t have; they needed to learn from Jesus what they needed to do toward the people around them. They needed to do these deeds on their lives so that the shamefulness of their nakedness to be covered, for their lack of doing the good work of the Lord had made them shameful. We needed to be rich in doing righteous things as the Lord directing us to do and achieve for Him.

4. **Saliva, “and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see:”** They needed to buy from Jesus saliva to put saliva in their eyes, **and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.** Here the spiritual blindness, that those self righteous who think themselves rich but the truth is that they cannot see their lack of a lot of spiritual beneficial things. That is why they need from Jesus to have saliva so they can see the truth and be set free.

Let us today humble ourselves in the hand of the Lord, and see the spiritual valuable things that we lack in our lives and start to ask the Lord to enrich us with them.

“19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.” (Revelation 3:19 KJV) This is the language of Jesus and a rebuke to those who are not willing to humble down and accept correction. This is also His love and His concern toward them. Jesus rebukes those whom He loves. Those who will respond to His rebuke they will be blessed. Those whom they hear His knocking on the door, and they open and allow Him in, He will come in and have fellowship with them, **“20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.”** (Revelation 3:20 KJV)

Jesus promised that those who overcome will sit with Him on His throne, as He overcome and sat on the throne of His father, **“21 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. 22 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.”** (Revelation 3:21-22 KJV) Pride and self righteousness are the great enemy that will destroy us if we will not control them and get rid of them. Jesus today in his message to us He is rebuking those among us who are still arrogant and proud in their spirit. If they will humble down and overcome their pride and be willing to allow Jesus to enter into their lives and change them, they will overcome, and they will be blessed by the Lord and the Lord will allow them, and will allow us we who overcome, to sit with Him in His throne, as He overcame and sat down at His Father throne.

Those who considered themselves did not attain it they are blessed by the Lord. Those who humble themselves they speak in this way, **“13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, 14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 3:13-14 KJV)** They will say clearly that they are not yet apprehended and they are not yet achieved or perfected, but they are still babes and on the way forward to meet the requirements of the Lord. **We need to humble down before the Lord and announce that we are still in need of much spiritual direction from the Lord.**

My dear and beloved: The Lord is inviting us today, inviting each and every one of us into soul searching in honest way. God wants us to keep aside our pride and look into ourselves and see the things that we lack so we can ask the Lord to give us.

Let us look into ourselves and see the things that are wrong in us, and start to correct ourselves and repent of our sins, so that we may find mercy and grace from the Lord in this time of need. Let us keep aside our pride so that we will not be missing the blessings of the Lord, for what His Word says is true, “Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven:” (Matthew 5:3 KJV)

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the death on the third day to give me eternal life.

Lord I thank you for your clear Word to me and for your rebuke that I received from your Word. Lord I accept it because I knew that you had sent this Word in order to make me a better person.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord

Lord forgives me my sins _____. Lord forgive me the sin of pride, self righteousness, arrogance, looking down into others,

Lord I am weary and burden, I am coming to you Lord Jesus. Lord, please give me rest, give me humility, fill me again with your Holy Spirit. I need you Lord more now in my life. Lord here my cry for mercy.

I am willing to surrender my life and my will to you. Lord I am willing to buy gold from you. Lord I need more of you in my life. Open my eyes Lord to see myself in the way that I am, so I can correct myself more. Lord teaches me what are the righteous things that you want me to do in my life.

Lord thank you for your instructive Word that you sent to your church and the rebuke and the correction that we received from you.

Lord I pray for my Brothers and Sisters who had repented of their sins and are willing to humble down and walk in your ways. Lord enrich them with spiritual things, open their eyes to see the truth and lead them to do the righteous acts that you need them to do. Lord fills

them once again with the Holy Spirit so they can go and do your work and your will. Lord protects them and continues to provide for them so they will continue to serve you.

Lord I pray for us as a church to go on in serving you and do your work and your will. Lord let your Word for us today on this message transform us, and make us good example for others to follow. Lord enables us to evangelize and to reach new people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and with the Word of God. Lord we pray that you will enable us to plant new Bible studies and new congregations for the church. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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