



“If you continue in My word,
then are you My **Disciples InDeed...**”

The Way to True Happiness

Matthew 5:3-11 “Blessed...Blessed...Blessed...
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Blessed...”

Jesus begins His great sermon by addressing the universal longing of men to find true happiness. He doesn't name any of the commonly cherished things that the peoples of the world seek after in their pursuit of happiness, but rather shocks us with His choice of words that we wouldn't associate with happiness at all; things like poverty, mourning, hunger, thirst, and persecution. Look at the nine “beatitudes” and consider how they are the exact opposite of what the world says will make you happy and blessed. What do you think Jesus is trying to communicate to His listeners by choosing terms of description that are so contrary to the way we naturally think?

What are some of the other common paths that people take to try to find happiness in this world?

What did the wise man say about these things in Prov. 27:20, Eccl 4:8, Eccl 5:10, and Eccl 6:7?

Why don't earthly things give us lasting happiness?

Where does God say that true and lasting happiness is to be found? (Psalm 16:11) _____

If we're going to experience the fullness of joy that comes from being close to God, what needs to change – the things around us or the things within us? _____

Who then is your biggest hindrance to keep you from being close to God? (Hint: the name is a two-letter word beginning with “m”) _____

How do the beatitudes deal with this problem of self? _____

Galatians 5:22,23 “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance.”

These verses describe what is happening inside of us when we're walking closely with God. Aren't these the things that make for a truly blessed life?

As we study these nine “Kingdom Attitudes” in the coming lessons, let's ask God to work them into who we are and who we are becoming by His Spirit and power. Let's see the self-life for the enemy that it is and let's embrace the Christ-life as our life!

Study for Next Week: Matt 5:3, Isa 66:2, Lk 18:14

“...And you shall know The Truth,
and The Truth shall **make you Free!**”

