

Kingdom Citizens - Matthew 5:1-10

“Blessed are the Poor In Spirit”

Matthew 4:17, From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

Repentance: A turning AWAY from a sinful way of life, and a turning TOWARDS a God-honoring way of life.

Acts 3:19, Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.

Matthew 4:23-25, Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the GOOD NEWS of the KINGDOM, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. ²⁴ News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed; and he healed them. ²⁵ Large crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and the region across the Jordan followed him.

MAP

The Kingdom of God: God’s RULE and REIGN over all people’s in heaven and on earth.

Matthew 5:1-2, Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ² and he began to teach them.

Makarios - A term of congratulation and recommendation.

Matthew 5:3-10, Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵ Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷ Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. ⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Poor In Spirit” - Coming to the END of yourself and approaching God with EMPTY hands.

Mark 12:41-42, Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. ⁴² But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.

Luke 16:19-21, “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. ²⁰ At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores ²¹ and longing to eat what fell from the rich man’s table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.”

Two Words To Describe being Poor in Spirit: DESTITUTE and DEPENDENT

“We are all desperate, and that is, in fact, the only state appropriate to a human being who wants to know God.” - Philip Yancy

“O the bliss of the man who has realized his own utter helplessness, and who has put his whole trust in God, for thus alone can he render to God that perfect obedience which will make him a citizen of the kingdom of heaven!” - William Barclay

As Kingdom Citizens, we begin kingdom living at the END of ourselves.

“God wants you to have something far better than riches and gold—or personal charisma or talent—and that is helpless dependence upon him.” - Hudson Taylor

Psalm 51:17, My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.