

All Authority

- *“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen. Mt. 28:18-20*

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Do We Accept His Authority?

- *Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. 32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:31-32*
- *He that rejects me and receives not My sayings has a judge, the word I spoke will judge him on last day. Jn. 12:48*
- *"But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord' and not do the things which I say?" Lk. 6:46*
- *God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, Heb. 1:1-3*

Sermon on the Mount: Rock or Sand?

- *"Therefore **whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them**, I will liken him to **a wise man who built his house on the rock**: 25 and the rain descended, the floods came, and **the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.***
- *26 "But **everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them**, will be like **a foolish man who built his house on the sand**: 27 and the rain descended, **the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell.** And great was its fall." Mt. 7:24-27*

Blessed Are ...

- to regard someone as happy or fortunate in view of favorable circumstances –
- Shows honor and praise for success and happiness
- Those with beauty, wealth, power, athletic ability, mental achievement.
- Jesus offers this to His disciples who master and gain these characteristics.
- *And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. 29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Rom 8:28-30*

Poor in Spirit

- Jesus had two words for “poor” to choose from:
- Whereas *penes* denotes one who has to **earn his living because he has no property ...** *ptochos* **denotes the complete destitution** which forces the poor to seek the help of others by **begging**. ... **It is the fate of a *ptochos* to have nothing .. but that of a *penes* to live frugally.** (Kittel TDWNT; 4434)
- Jesus chose the second word. In the eyes of God, we are spiritually destitute; we are blessed if we see it and act accordingly.

Poor in Spirit

- *Thus says the LORD: Heaven is My throne, and earth is My footstool. Where is the house that you will build Me? And where is the place of My rest? For all those things My hand has made, and all those things exist, says the LORD. But on this one will I look: on him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, and who trembles at My word. Isa 66:2*
- *The LORD is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves such as have a contrite spirit. Ps 34:18*
- This is one of the most difficult things for man to do. God wants us to see ourselves clearly and remove all false pride and sense of worth.

Poor in Spirit

- *The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart— these, O God, You will not despise. Ps 51:17*
- *For thus says the High and Lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: “I dwell in the high and holy place, with him who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones. Isa 57:15*

We are being conformed to His Image

- He is not asking us to do something He has not already done Himself.
- *Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, Phil 2:5-10*

Poor in Spirit

- *But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away. ... 8 But now, O Lord, You are our Father; We are the clay, and You our potter; And all we are the work of Your hand. Isa 64:6, 8*
- *So likewise you, when you have done all those things which you are commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants. We have done what was our duty to do.'" Lk 17:10*

Gospel only Draws the Poor in spirit

- The gospel is designed to draw and bring only those who are poor in spirit. The proud and self-satisfied are repelled by its demands
- *For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. 27 But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; 28 and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, 29 that no flesh should glory in His presence. 1 Cor 1:26-30*

God Gives Grace to the Humble

- *Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble." 6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, 1 Peter 5:5-7*
- *Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up. James 4:10*
- *Neither be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Christ. 11 The greatest among you shall be your servant. 12 Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted. Mt. 23:10-12*

We Have Heard: Blessed poor in spirit

- *"Therefore **whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock:** 25 and the rain descended, the floods came, and **the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.***
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- Are we building on the rock or on the sand?
- Will we be exalted or humbled?