

Blessed Are....

- As we read the Scriptures we find men and women who were praised by God:
- Abraham was called “*My friend*,” Isa. 41:8; Jas. 2:23
- Moses was “*faithful in all My house*” (Num. 12:7; Heb. 3:2-5).
- Job “*there is none like him in all the earth*” (Job 1:8).
- Daniel was “*greatly beloved*” (Dan. 9:23; 10:11, 19)
- Mary was “*blessed among women*” (Lk. 1:28).
- “*God shows no partiality!*” (Acts 10:34).
- Anyone with the characteristics that made these people special will also be special.
- By using blessed are... Jesus reveals some of them.
- *Blessed*. “*supremely blest; happy, honored by God.*”
- Those who possess these qualities special to God.

Blessed Are ...

- Their blessed is seen in what God gives them.
- Poor in Spirit **Kingdom of Heaven**
- Mourn **Comforted**
- Meek **Inherit the Earth**
- Hunger & Thirst for Righteousness **Filled**
- Merciful **Obtain Mercy**
- Pure in Heart **See God**
- Peacemakers **Called Sons of God**
- Persecuted/Righteousness **Great Reward**
- **Hear these sayings and do them are wise**

Blessed are Those Mourning / Weeping

- *Blessed are you who weep now, For you shall laugh... woe to you who laugh now, For you shall mourn and weep. Lk 6:20-26*
- *Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted. Matt 5:4*
- Grammar: Present active participle ... “mourning and weeping become the continuous attribute of those who are blessed.

Rejoice Always – Blessed Mourning

- Passage creates a paradox when joined to other Scriptures.
- *After baptism the Eunuch went on his way rejoicing (Acts 8:39).*
- Isn't that the way it is supposed to be?
- We mourn until after we become a Christian, and then we rejoice always?
- *Rejoice in the Lord always: again I will say, Rejoice. Phil 4:4*
- But the grammar won't allow that view.
- We are to continue to be mourning and weeping

Rejoicing always / Mourning Always?

- It is not that complicated. The truth is that our heart is big enough for both, and the circumstances of life allow and demand

- *To everything there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven: 4 A time to weep, And a time to laugh; A time to mourn, And a time to dance(a dance of joy and jubilation Eccl 3:1, 4*

A time to weep A time to laugh

- *Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. For me to write the same things to you is not tedious, but for you it is safe. Phil 3:1*
- *Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! Phil 4:4*
- *Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Mt 5:4*
- *Blessed are you who weep now, For you shall laugh... woe to you who laugh now, For you shall mourn and weep. Lk 6:20, 26*

Humility and Godly Sorrow

- *The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise. Ps 51:17*
- *Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. 9 Be miserable and mourn and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning, and your joy to gloom. 10 Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you. James 4:8-10*

The Real Issue: Sin & Repentance

- *For even if I made you sorry with my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it. For I perceive that the same epistle made you sorry, though only for a while. 9 Now I rejoice, not that you were made sorry, but that your sorrow led to repentance. For you were made sorry in a godly manner, that you might suffer loss from us in nothing. 10 For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death. 2 Cor 7:8-11*

The Real Issue: Sin & Repentance

- *11 For observe this very thing, that you sorrowed in a godly manner: What diligence it produced in you, what clearing of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what vehement desire, what zeal, what vindication! In all things you proved yourselves to be clear in this matter. 2 Cor 7:8-11*
- We must mourn! We must weep! We must feel godly sorrow leading to repentance.
- If we are only/always rejoicing, we cannot be forgiven. If we mourn over sin we will be comforted with forgiveness.

The Last Enemy: Death

- *A good name is better than precious ointment,
And the day of death than the day of one's birth;
2 Better to go to the house of mourning Than to
go to the house of feasting, For that is the end of
all men; And the living will take it to heart. 3
Sorrow is better than laughter, For by a sad
countenance the heart is made better. 4 The
heart of the wise is in the house of mourning,
But the heart of fools is in the house of mirth. 5
It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise Than
for a man to hear the song of fools. Eccl 7:1-5*

Other reasons to be Mourning

- *I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience bearing witness with me in the Holy Spirit, 2 that I have great sorrow and unceasing pain in my heart. 3 For I could wish that I myself were anathema from Christ for my brethren's sake, my kinsmen according to the flesh: Rom 9:1-3*
- *Streams of water run down mine eyes, because they observe not thy law. Ps 119:136*
- The more we learn from the Scriptures the more grief and sorrow we will feel.
- *Because in much wisdom there is much grief, and increasing knowledge results in increasing pain. Ecc 1:18*

Even More Reasons

- *Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. Rom 12:15*
- *the members should have the same care for one another. 26 And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it. 1 Cor 12:25-26*

And a Few More Reasons

- *And you have become arrogant, and have not mourned instead, in order that the one who had done this deed might be removed from your midst. 1 Cor 5:2*
- *Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. 9 Be miserable and mourn and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning, and your joy to gloom. 10 Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you. James 4:8-10*

Rethinking Conclusions

- *Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Mt 5:4*
- The first time we read this and its counterpart in Luke we are somewhat at a loss as to what Jesus means. It doesn't sound possible to us.
- *Blessed are you who weep now, For you shall laugh... woe to you who laugh now, For you shall mourn and weep. Lk 6:20-26*
- Jesus statements force us to think. When it doesn't fit into our understanding, it forces us to re-evaluate. Either what Jesus said is wrong or our present view of things is wrong.

For those who are Mourning

if you do not **believe** that I am He, you will die in your sins." Jn. 8:24

unless you **repent** you will all likewise perish. Lk. 13:5

if you **confess** with your mouth the Lord Jesus and **believe** in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. Rom. 10:9-10

Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He who **believes** and **is baptized** will be saved; Mk. 16:15-16

Repent, and let every one of you **be baptized** in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins Ats 2:38

If we **confess our sins**, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.