

Because I'm Happy

I. Slide1 Announce:

- A. Slide2 Baby Dedication *3rd service*: Daniel & Yaeseul (Ya-sool) Chugh (Chew).
 - 1. Eleazar (*God has helped* - 1 of David's top 3 mighty men) Daniel (*God is my judge*)
- B. Slide3 Harvest Festival
- C. Slide4,5 CR - video & logo. The Landing.
- D. Slide6 1st, TY *Stuff the Bus*/van. Children At Risk: 3-5pm Agape Rm. Help us plan next conf.

II. Slide7 Intro:

- A. This sermon of Jesus goes all the way till the end of **ch.7**.
- B. I really don't like the title *Sermon on the Mnt* because it is *not descriptive*.
 - 1. It's like, my message today is...**Sermon from my Pulpit?**
 - 2. Slide8,9 It's actually a sermon on a **rolling hill**.
 - a) It's located near the edge of the shore of the *sea of Galilee*, in a natural amphitheater.
 - 3. **Maybe**, *A Mountain of a Sermon*; or *Sermon of the Monarch*; or *The Kingdom Manifesto*; or *The Constitution of His Kingdom*; or *The Portrait of Jesus*.
- C. Slide10 It's **not** the **do** attitudes it's the **be** attitudes. *It's who we should be, more than we should do*.
 - 1. We also see how they are **progressive** as they unfold.
- D. When **Jesus** opens His **mouth**, **we** open our **ears & hearts**.

Pray: Like Samuel we declare, *Speak, Lord, your servant is listening. And in our listening...may we understand. And in that understanding...may we have wisdom to live. Lord, we will go w/You, live w/You, Follow You...wherever You lead.*
- E. Slide11 **This is not...** God's plan for Salvation. **Nor** a charter for world peace. **Nor** is it only applicable for the future in the literal 1000 year millennial kingdom.
 - 1. It is certain that this Sermon has definite application for **us today**.
 - a) These truths are all **repeated** in the N.T. epistles for the church today.
 - 2. See Jesus' own ending, in **whom** He says it's for. **Mt.7:24-27**
 - a) Not just those that **heard** His words, **but** those *that'll hear* His sayings. **7:24**

3. If it's only for the *Millennium* than what about vs.10,11?
- F. **This is not...** a 2nd Law or a 2nd set of commandments. It goes much deeper than the law because it deals with *internal attitudes* as well as *outward actions*.
 1. Note also, the demands of the *sermon on the mount* are much more **difficult** than those found in the law of Moses. **Only** the true believer in Jesus Christ can put the sermon on the mount into practice. See Rom.8:1-8

III. Slide12 THE BEATITUDES (1,2)

- A. Luke gives us *Beatitudes* also in Luke 6:17-23 but it seems different than Matthew's.
 1. **Contradiction?** No. Differences include *location/occasion* (mount vs. level place). *Content* (both have diff content, the other doesn't have). And also *listeners* (disciples vs. disciples + many others).
- B. If *the world* wrote these they'd sound more like, *Blessed are the healthy. Blessed are the wealthy. Blessed are the beautiful. Blessed are the always tanned*. Or something like that.

IV. Slide13 BLESSED (3) Blessed

- A. Slide14 Blessed - happy (because I'm Happy, Clap along if you feel like a room without a roof)
 1. Jesus' 1st year teaching, probably 1st sermon. So, His 1st word of His
 2. Slide15 μακάριος (*ma-Kar-ios*) 1st found in the 5th cent BC by Pindar *ancient Gk Lyric poet/Thebes*
 3. At first, it was only used of the *GK gods* (Homer uses *μάκαρ* only 8x's of men).
 4. Slide16 Homer said, *it denotes the transcendent happiness of a life beyond care, labour and death*.¹ [It denoted the state of *godlike blessedness*]
 - a) Later it meant to be *rich*. It becomes a leading philosophical term for *inner happiness*. It has nothing with your *outward* circumstance.
 - b) Slide17 It has to do with *the weather inside*. What is the coldest place you've been? Mine was w/Jeff Thompson in Ukraine. I never remember being colder than that *winter there*. But in every car & room we were in it was warm, *climate controlled*.
 - (1) **Good example of the believer in Jesus**. *It doesn't matter what the temperature is outside, if it's controlled on the inside*.

¹ Theological Dictionary of the NT, Hom. Od., 5, 7.

- B. Everyone is pursuing Happiness (Even the last *Ted Radio Hour* show was on *Simply Happy*)
- Slide18 Our constitution guarantees the **pursuit of happiness**.
Jesus' constitution points out the **pathway to happiness**, as He describes the **attitudes** which **lead to happiness**.
 - True happiness is our **birthright** as members of the family of God.
 - Christians should be the happiest people on earth [NOT the worlds superficial happiness which depends on **circumstances**]
- C. Let's look at this 1st step to Happiness. We'll look at **The Role & The Reward** on each.

V. Slide19 **THE ROLE (3a)** *Blessed are the poor in spirit*

A. Slide20 What *poor in spirit* is **not**...

- He doesn't start with be Self-assertive. Aggressive. Confident. Esteem yourself. **No!** but *poor in spirit*. **Not** those *poor in pocketbook*, **but** those who realize their own **spiritual poverty**.
 - Slide21 **Dietrich Bonhoeffer** (Luthern Pastor, philosopher, theologian. His opposition of Hiltlerism led to his death by the Gestapo April 9th,1945)
Dietrich said concerning the **disciples**, "*They have no security, no possessions, no real estate, no earthly society to claim their absolute allegiance, no spiritual power, experience, knowledge, they were unlearned and ignorant, they lost all, everything that could make them rich, they even lost their own selves! They have no other hope but in Him who called them!*"
 - Poor in Spirit is **not** the attitude of, *I'm not worth anything, or I can't do anything*. Nope, that's *False Humility*.
 - Poor in Spirit** is the **opposite** of being **prideful in spirit**.
 - King Saul said to Samuel, "*...honor me now, please, before the elders of my people and before Israel, and return with me, that I may worship the Lord your God.*" His **pride** made him a **slave**. He was not the *King over Israel*, Israel was *King over him*.
 - Blessed are the poor in pride**. Those who **aren't** proud of ancestry (Jews then), **aren't** proud of social status, **aren't** proud of their nobility, **aren't** proud of their class.
- B. Slide22 This beatitude speaks of **emptying**, **while** the rest are a manifestation of a **fullness**.

1. We can't be **filled** unless we're **emptied**. **Dr. Martyn Lloyd Jones** said, *This one is first because it is obviously the key to all that follows.*

C. **Slide23** What *poor in spirit* is... (humility)

1. *Poor in spirit* is the tax collector who **dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead, he beat his chest in sorrow, saying, 'O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.'** Lk.18:13

D. **Slide24** How we *walk with the broken* speaks louder *than...how we sit with the great*.

1. **See** its when I realize I *don't* have it in me to **make it**, to be **accepted by God**. I don't have it in me to **change** this thing I see inside of me. I don't have the **love** I need. I don't have the **strength** I need. I don't have the **faith** I need. And I have calculated everything, and you know what, I come out a **zero**. **So** since nothings here...I better look up to HIM for everything. Jim Cymbala

a) Oh how happy is *that* person. *Pre-Jesus I idolized Brian but Brian doesn't make it in himself.* That **emptying of ourselves** is the only way to get into His kingdom. The kingdom is for those who have **gotten tired** of themselves, have **given up on Slide25a** themselves and realized...**I need to run to Jesus!**

b) So, this speaks to *one who realizes their own spiritual poverty and then puts all their trust in God's ability to supply their spiritual need.*

- (1) **Slide25b** It's being **aware of** your **spiritual poverty** & of your need of **divine help**.

2. Maybe we can say, **Happy are the beggars** (sp) because whatever they need their father is going to give it to them.

a) *We are just one beggar, telling another beggar, where to find bread.*

3. **Slide25c** Do you want to have everything heaven has?

a) God says, *What! you've come to the end of your rope, end of your wealth, end of your health, end of yourself...and you only have ME? :) I'm going to give you everything you need.*

- (1) You need *wisdom, a job, healing,* & you're going to trust Me for it because you're at the end...**Beautiful!**

- b) Remember the Israelites in the wilderness...when they went into the land, God said, I'm going to bless **you** and **your land**, and **your crops** are going to be **abundant**, you're going to have **milk** and **honey** and **a lot more...but please don't forget...I'm the One** who gave you everything. **Otherwise** the very *blessings* of God will be come a *trap*. **And** you will trust in **them** instead of **Me**. *You'll lose poverty of spirit*.
- c) When you were in the **wilderness** you didn't know where to go...and I brought you through the Red Sea. I led you with a cloud by day, fire by night, you had nothing. **And** I sent you *manna* every day. **Every morning you woke up with nothing, and you depended on Me and look how I took care of you. And now watch it...**because as I give you *other things, other blessings...*they may become a *substitute* for **Me**. **And** instead of trusting **Me** and having poverty of spirit, you're going to walk around saying, *look at my farm, look at my land*. **No**, you're going to say, *look at my God, look at my Provider*.
- (1) How many want to live their, every day, at the **end** of themselves?

VI. Slide26 **THE REWARD (3b)** *For theirs is the kingdom of Heaven*

- A. This isn't for salvation...**theirs IS** the kingdom of heaven. (present tense)
- B. Slide27 **Theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven - We'll reign as kings when we submit as servants.**
1. This is the Paradox of the Christian life: **We surrender that we might reign.**