

BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS

MATTHEW 5

Text: Matthew 5:9

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⁹ Blessed *are* the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

Introduction:

Here at the very onset, I do not want us to confuse what Jesus says when he calls “PEACEMAKERS” blessed, and what we have going on around the world today, where we have “PEACEKEEPERS”.

Peacekeepers are those who go in AFTER peace has been restored. Peacemakers are those who themselves take responsibility for restoring the peace AND then are active in keeping the peace.

With that being said, it’s interesting that this is the seventh of the beatitudes. There is a mystery always connected with the number seven. If we are to have perfect blessedness, so far as it can be enjoyed on earth, this seventh beatitude must be employed and we must become a peacemaker.

There is significance also in the position of the text, if you regard the context. The previous verse speaks of

“pure in heart, for they shall see God.” It is well that we should understand this. We are to be “pure, then peaceable.” Don’t ignore the order.

Being peaceable is never to be an alliance with that which is evil. We must set our faces like flints against everything which is contrary to God and His holiness.

Remember these beatitudes build upon each other.

Titus describes this world at war.

Titus 3:3

For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another.

Notice:

1. THE PERSON OF PEACE

Isaiah 9:6

⁶For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

A. Christ

It is impossible to have the peace of God until one has made peace with God.

Romans 5:1

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

1 Cor. 14:33

For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.

2. THE PRINCIPLE OF PEACE

1 Thess. 5:13

And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.

Peace is to be desired, but peace is not the product of pragmatism.

Some have the idea that it is “peace at any cost”, but any effort to bring such to pass apart from God’s Word is compromise and sin.

James 3:17

But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

Hebrews 12:14

Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

Compromise is not peace, but Christians should not be contentious as they contend for the faith.

3. THE PURPOSE OF PEACE

A. We have been instructed to be at peace.

Psalms 34:14

¹⁴ Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.

Psalms 37:37

³⁷ Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace.

Mark 9:50

⁵⁰ Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another.

Romans 14:19

¹⁹ Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.

Ephesians 4:3

³ Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Colossians 3:15

¹⁵ And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

1 Thessalonians 5:13

¹³ And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.

2 Timothy 2:22

²² Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

Hebrews 12:14

¹⁴ Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

1 Peter 3:11

¹¹ Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it.

2 Peter 3:14

¹⁴ Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

B. It is one of the fruits of the spirit.

Galatians 5:22-23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, [23] Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

C. People associate them as children of God.

Matthew 5:9

⁹Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

Close:

We should make every effort to live at peace, but not at the price of principle