

The Similitudes!

Matthew 5:1-16

Welcome back and here we go! Today we will go over the Beatitudes but focus on the Similitudes, hopefully, without an attitude!

Matthew 5:1-12

1a) What do you like about the Beatitudes and why?

1b) Which one do you relate to the most?

The Beatitudes describe the qualities and attitudes that lead to spiritual blessing and favor in the Kingdom of God.

So, I guess the first question is, where is the Kingdom of God? Obviously, this is a topic we will cover extensively and exhaustively. It is central to Matthew's teaching.

As qualities ----- we should strive to inherit these blessings..

Yet pride, sin and human arrogance will always be present to pervert our truth. Still, look to the Beatitudes as a mirror or reflection of our inner values.... our truth.

Matthew 5:13-16 ¹³ ***"You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.*** ¹⁴ ***"You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.*** ¹⁵ ***Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.*** ¹⁶ ***Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.***

2) How does a believer lose their flavor?

Have you ever known someone who was doing crazy good as a Christian, suddenly become a Heathen?

3) What is the primary job of salt, besides flavor?

We, in fact, need the true unadulterated Word to preserve us. We need to get salty! As we learn the Word, we begin to change and our life is preserved! If salt preserves food, the Word preserves us and gives us the ability to preserve others!

But if we remove God from our life, it quickly goes back into a state of decay!

4) Describe a person you know who is a light:

One of my favorite sayings that I made up is: *"You are the light, not them!"*

5) Why do we look to others for light?

Many times people are incapable, yet we keep expecting something different! We don't get light, so we become dark.

6) Explain how others can quench your light:

When we are spiritually weak, other people can affect our moods and emotions. It's as if we need something from them in order to remain salty and shine our light.

7) Explain Matthew 5:16:

"Tom's explanation"

Representing God/Jesus is an action. People often know people are Christians just because of their actions! They also know when you have lost your saltiness.

Later, we will study *"Don't let your light be darkness"*. Wow

8) (Personal question) Where can you do better?

Now, go and do it!

Let's pray.