

## The Beatitudes: The Peacemaker

October 9, 2016

### Matthew 5:1-10 NASB

- 1 When Jesus saw the crowds, He went up on the mountain; and after He sat down, His disciples came to Him.
- 2 He opened His mouth and began to teach them, saying,
- 3 Blessed are the **poor in spirit**, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 4 Blessed are those who **mourn**, for they shall be comforted.
- 5 Blessed are the **gentle**, for they shall inherit the earth.
- 6 Blessed are those who **hunger and thirst for righteousness**, for they shall be satisfied.
- 7 Blessed are the **merciful**, for they shall receive mercy.
- 8 Blessed are the **pure in heart, for they shall see God**.
- 9 Blessed are the **PEACEMAKERS, FOR THEY SHALL BE CALLED SONS OF GOD**.
- 10 Blessed are those who have been **persecuted** for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

### Matthew 5:9 NASB

9 Blessed are the **PEACEMAKERS** (*eirēnopoios* - *peace-maker, loving peace, harmony, concord, rest, from Gk. eiro meaning to join, exempt from rage and havoc*), **FOR THEY SHALL BE CALLED SONS OF GOD**.

***The PEACEMAKER removes any obstacle to relationship, even at great personal sacrifice, knowing the relationship is more important than getting one's way or proving you're right.***

Romans 12:17-18 NASB

- 17 Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men.
- 18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.

***The PEACEMAKER brings harmony and concord to the relationship by communicating, understanding, respecting and being kind, knowing that relationship is the conduit of life and wholeness.***

Ephesians 4:1-3 NASB

- 1 Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called,
- 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love,
- 3 being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

***The PEACEMAKER understands the destruction and consequences of strife and division.***

Matthew 12:25 NASB

25 And knowing their thoughts Jesus said to them, "Any kingdom divided against itself is laid waste; and any city or house divided against itself will not stand."

Galatians 5:14-15 NASB

- 14 For the whole Law is fulfilled in one word, in the statement, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."
- 15 But if you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

## **GOD - THE ULTIMATE PEACEMAKER**

*"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God." Matthew 5:9 NASB*

### **Isaiah 9:6 NASB**

6 For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders; and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, **PRINCE OF PEACE.**

### **Matthew 26:47-52 NASB**

47 While He was still speaking, behold, Judas, one of the twelve, came up accompanied by a large crowd with swords and clubs, who came from the chief priests and elders of the people.

48 Now he who was betraying Him gave them a sign, saying, "Whomever I kiss, He is the one; seize Him."

49 Immediately Judas went to Jesus and said, "Hail, Rabbi!" and kissed Him.

50 And Jesus said to him, "**FRIEND, DO WHAT YOU HAVE COME FOR.**" Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and seized Him.

51 **AND BEHOLD, ONE OF THOSE WHO WERE WITH JESUS REACHED AND DREW OUT HIS SWORD, AND STRUCK THE SLAVE OF THE HIGH PRIEST AND CUT OFF HIS EAR.**

52 **THEN JESUS SAID TO HIM, "PUT YOUR SWORD BACK INTO ITS PLACE; FOR ALL THOSE WHO TAKE UP THE SWORD SHALL PERISH BY THE SWORD.**

### **Romans 5:1 NASB**

1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, **WE HAVE PEACE WITH GOD THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

### **Romans 5:8-10 NASB**

8 **BUT GOD DEMONSTRATES HIS OWN LOVE TOWARD US, IN THAT WHILE WE WERE YET SINNERS, CHRIST DIED FOR US.**

9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.

10 **FOR IF WHILE WE WERE ENEMIES WE WERE RECONCILED TO GOD THROUGH THE DEATH OF HIS SON,** much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

### **2 Corinthians 5:18-20 NASB**

18 Now all these things are from God, **WHO RECONCILED US TO HIMSELF THROUGH CHRIST AND GAVE US THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION,**

19 **NAMELY, THAT GOD WAS IN CHRIST RECONCILING THE WORLD TO HIMSELF, NOT COUNTING THEIR TRESPASSES AGAINST THEM, AND HE HAS COMMITTED TO US THE WORD OF RECONCILIATION.**

20 **THEREFORE, WE ARE AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST, AS THOUGH GOD WERE MAKING AN APPEAL THROUGH US; WE BEG YOU ON BEHALF OF CHRIST, BE RECONCILED TO GOD.**

## MAKING PEACE...

### 1. **Understand and respect them** - *listen and observe - what makes them who and what they are?*

- *Being an attentive, perceptive and patient listener invites the other person to open their heart to you, without which peace in relationship is NOT possible.*
- *Good listening requires your full attention without interruptions.*
- *Good listening puts yourself in that person's place, to feel what they feel.*
- *Good listening diffuses harmful and destructive emotions.*
- *Good listening provides more affirmation than answers.*
- *Good listening is not distracted by what you want to say next.*
- *Good listening does not try to change or fix the other person.*

James 1:19 NASB

19 This you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger.

Proverbs 18:13 NASB

13 He who gives an answer before he hears, it is folly and shame to him.

Proverbs 20:5 NASB

5 A plan in the heart of a man is like deep water, but a man of understanding draws it out.

Philippians 2:3-4 NASB

3 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves;

4 do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

### 2. **Avoid any human or natural offense**

- *the relationship is more important than having things your way, your opinion, your preference, your promotion or your ease*
- *if they're going to be offended, let it not be you that offends*
- *don't offend in attitude, tone, body language, word or deed*

Romans 14:19-22 NASB

19 So then we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another.

20 Do not tear down the work of God for the sake of food. All things indeed are clean, but they are evil for the man who eats and gives offense.

21 It is good not to eat meat or to drink wine, or to do anything by which your brother stumbles.

22 The faith which you have, have as your own conviction before God. Happy is he who does not condemn himself in what he approves.

Acts 16:1-4 NASB

1 Paul came also to Derbe and to Lystra. And a disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek,

2 and he was well spoken of by the brethren who were in Lystra and Iconium.

3 Paul wanted this man to go with him; and he took him and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in those parts, for they all knew that his father was a Greek.

4 Now while they were passing through the cities, they were delivering the decrees which had been decided upon by the apostles and elders who were in Jerusalem, for them to observe.

Acts 18:18-19 NASB

18 Paul, having remained many days longer, took leave of the brethren and put out to sea for Syria, and with him were Priscilla and Aquila. In Cenchrea he had his hair cut, for he was keeping a vow.

19 They came to Ephesus, and he left them there. Now he himself entered the synagogue and reasoned with the Jews.

Acts 21:17-27 NASB

17 After we arrived in Jerusalem, the brethren received us gladly.

18 And the following day Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present.

19 After he had greeted them, he began to relate one by one the things which God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry.

20 And when they heard it they began glorifying God; and they said to him, "You see, brother, how many thousands there are among the Jews of those who have believed, and they are all zealous for the Law;

21 and they have been told about you, that you are teaching all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children nor to walk according to the customs.

22 What, then, is to be done? They will certainly hear that you have come.

23 Therefore do this that we tell you. We have four men who are under a vow;

24 take them and purify yourself along with them, and pay their expenses so that they may shave their heads; and all will know that there is nothing to the things which they have been told about you, but that you yourself also walk orderly, keeping the Law.

25 But concerning the Gentiles who have believed, we wrote, having decided that they should abstain from meat sacrificed to idols and from blood and from what is strangled and from fornication."

26 Then Paul took the men, and the next day, purifying himself along with them, went into the temple giving notice of the completion of the days of purification, until the sacrifice was offered for each one of them.

27 When the seven days were almost over, the Jews from Asia, upon seeing him in the temple, began to stir up all the crowd and laid hands on him.

### 3. **Build a bridge of trust, respect and genuine care**

- *care for them individually, personally and genuinely*
- *they are not a statistic, profile or stereotype*
- *identify with them, be relatable and relevant*

1 Corinthians 9:19-22 NASB

19 For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I may win more.

20 To the Jews I became as a Jew, so that I might win Jews; to those who are under the Law, as under the Law though not being myself under the Law, so that I might win those who are under the Law;

21 to those who are without law, as without law, though not being without the law of God but under the law of Christ, so that I might win those who are without law.

22 To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak; I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some.

**Albert Barnes, "Albert Barnes' Notes on the Whole Bible"**

**"I BECAME AS A JEW"** - I complied with their rites, customs, prejudices, as far as I could with a good conscience. I did not needlessly offend them. I did not attack and oppose their views, when there was no danger that my conduct should be mistaken."

**"AS UNDER THE LAW"** - That is, I conformed to their rites and customs as far as I could do it. I did not violate them unnecessarily. I did not disregard them for the purpose of offending them; nor refuse to observe them when it could be done with a good conscience. There can be no doubt that Paul, when he was in Judea, submitted himself to the laws, and lived in conformity with them."

**"THAT I MIGHT GAIN"** - That I might obtain their confidence and affection. That I might not outrage their feelings, excite their prejudices, and provoke them to anger; and that I might thus have access to their minds, and be the means of converting them to the Christian faith."

Acts 21:40 NASB

40 When he had given him permission, Paul, standing on the stairs, motioned to the people with his hand; and when there was a great hush, he spoke to them in the Hebrew dialect, saying,

Acts 22:1-8 NASB

1 "Brethren and fathers, hear my defense which I now offer to you."

2 And when they heard that he was addressing them in the Hebrew dialect, they became even more quiet; and he said,

3 "I am a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city, educated under Gamaliel, strictly according to the law of our fathers, being zealous for God just as you all are today."

4 "I persecuted this Way to the death, binding and putting both men and women into prisons,

5 as also the high priest and all the Council of the elders can testify. From them I also received letters to the brethren, and started off for Damascus in order to bring even those who were there to Jerusalem as prisoners to be punished.

6 "But it happened that as I was on my way, approaching Damascus about noontime, a very bright light suddenly flashed from heaven all around me,

7 and I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?'

8 "And I answered, 'Who are You, Lord?' And He said to me, 'I am Jesus the Nazarene, whom you are persecuting.'

#### 4. Speak the Truth in love

- *never compromise the Truth but speak the Truth in meekness and humility, never in harshness, rivalry or superiority*
- *be an example of the Truth you speak*
- *if they are offended, if there is disunity, let it be because of the Truth and not your delivery*
- *Christians are not to be the source of persecution but the objects*
- *God's Truth is what unifies us - both the individual and corporate conviction of and surrender to absolute Truth*

Ephesians 4:14-16 NASB

14 As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;

15 but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ,  
16 from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

Matthew 10:34-39 NASB

34 Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.

35 For I came to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;

36 and a man's enemies will be the members of his household.

37 He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.

38 And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.

39 He who has found his life will lose it, and he who has lost his life for My sake will find it.