

Lesson I.

THE BEATITUDES

April 1, 1900

Matt. 4: 25 to 5: 12—Memory Verses, 3-9

Golden Text—Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.—Matt. 5: 8.

And there followed him great multitudes of people from Galilee, and from Decap'olis, and from Jeru'salem, and from Judæ'a, and from beynd Jor'dan.

Ch. 5: 1 And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:

2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,

3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

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

10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

THE LESSON RE-TOLD

All day long crowds of people followed Jesus, so that very often He had no time to eat or sleep. But sometimes in the evenings He would walk away alone to the top of a mountain and spend the whole night in prayer with His Heavenly Father.

One morning when He was coming down the steep hillside He saw crowds of people gathered again to hear Him. The disciples were there and strangers from Jerusalem and across the Jordan, and many others whom Jesus had cured, with their friends, all anxiously waiting to hear His words.

Then Jesus sat down just where He was, on a ledge of rock, and began to preach.

He used one word a great many times. It was the word Blessed, meaning happy and holy.

He said: Blessed are the poor in spirit, blessed are they that mourn, blessed are the meek and the hungry and thirsty, and the merciful, and the pure in heart and the peacemakers, and they that get into trouble for doing what is right—because all these things are the true marks of God's children. Remember how God's servants, the prophets, had to suffer for the same things.

The people were surprised to hear Jesus call the sad and the meek and the poor happy. Nobody had preached such things

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