

MATTHEW

August 15, 2021

Matthew 5:1-12

READ

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QUESTIONS for REFLECTION

1. What comes to mind when you hear the word “blessed”? What is the first thing that pops into your head?

What does the NT word “blessed” mean? Consult a study Bible or commentary if needed.

How does the definition differ from your impression?

2. What are the Beatitudes describing or identifying? (Who are these people anyway?)
3. From whose perspective should the Beatitudes be understood? What vantage point is being expressed?
4. What would likely be the initial reaction of the crowd when hearing, “Blessed are...”? Why?
5. What, on the surface, seems paradoxical about the first few Beatitudes?
6. What is suggested in the word “poor” (v. 3)?

To what does it refer? What is the object of this poverty?

What does this poverty mean to us? How is this poverty to be expressed?

- Isaiah 6:1-5
- Luke 18:9-14

7. Why is this poverty a necessary first-step when it comes to the kingdom of heaven?

8. What does it mean to mourn (v. 4)? Why do we mourn?

What is promised in response to this mourning? To whom does this promise apply?

9. What could possibly be bigger than what we have lost (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)?

10. What should be a cause of greater mourning for a citizen of the kingdom of heaven (2 Corinthians 7:9-11)? What benefit does it produce?

PERSONAL RESPONSE

I will confess my brokenness this week by . . .

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