



Lecture # 5 Part 3

OUTLINE OF MATTHEW

IV. THE TEACHINGS OF THE MESSIAH TO HIS DISCIPLES: THE GREAT SERMON ON THE MOUNT, [5:1-7:29](#) ([Luke 6:20-49](#))

- A. The True Disciple (Part I): Who He is and His Reward (the Beatitudes), [5:1-12](#) ([Luke 6:20-23](#))
- B. The True Disciple (Part II): The Salt of the Earth—Serving God, [5:13](#) ([Mark 9:50](#); cp. [Luke 14:34-35](#); [Colossians 4:6](#))
- C. The True Disciple (Part III): The Light of the World—Shining for God, [5:14-16](#) ([Mark 4:21-23](#); [Luke 8:16-18](#); [Luke 11:33](#))
- D. The Law and Jesus: Breaking the Law of God, [5:17-20](#)
- E. The Real Meaning of Murder, [5:21-26](#)
- F. The Real Meaning of Adultery, [5:27-30](#) (cp. [Matthew 19:3-11](#); [Mark 10:2-12](#); [Luke 16:18](#); [1 Cor. 7:1-16](#))
- G. The Real Meaning of Divorce, [5:31-32](#)
- H. The Real Meaning of Oaths and Swearing, [5:33-37](#)
- I. The Real Meaning of the Law Governing Injury, [5:38-42](#) ([Luke 6:29-30](#))
- J. The Real Meaning of Human Relationships, [5:43-48](#) ([Luke 6:27-36](#))
- K. The Right Motive for Giving, [6:1-4](#)
- L. The Right Motive for Prayer (Part I), [6:5-6](#)
- M. The Three Great Rules for Prayer (Part II), [6:7-8](#)
- N. The Model Prayer (Part III), [6:9-13](#) ([Luke 11:2-4](#))
- O. The Basic Principle of Prayer (Part IV): Forgiveness, [6:14-15](#) ([Mark 11:25-26](#))
- P. The Right Motive for Fasting, [6:16-18](#)
- Q. The Warning about Wealth and Materialism, [6:19-24](#)
- R. The Counsel on Worry and Anxiety, [6:25-34](#)
- S. The Warning about Judging and Criticizing Others, [7:1-6](#) ([Luke 6:37-42](#))
- T. The Key to Prayer: Persevering in Prayer, [7:7-11](#)
- U. The Summit of Ethics: The Golden Rule and Two Choices in Life, [7:12-14](#) ([Luke 6:31](#); [Luke 13:23-24](#))
- V. The Warning about False Prophets, [7:15-20](#)
- W. The Warning About False Pretenses: Who Shall Enter the Kingdom of Heaven, [7:21-23](#) ([Luke 13:26-27](#))
- X. The Wise and Foolish Builder, [7:24-27](#) ([Luke 6:47-49](#))
- Y. The Teaching of Jesus and Its Impact, [7:28-29](#)



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A. The True Disciple (Part I): Who He is and His Reward (the Beatitudes), [5:1-12](#)

1. ([Matthew 5:1-12](#)) **Introduction:** seldom in history have so few words been spoken with so much meaning. The Beatitudes of our Lord are powerful, holding before the world a descriptive picture of the true disciple of God. The Beatitudes cover the glorious hope and reward the believer can expect, now as well as in eternity.

1. Jesus saw multitudes ([v.1-2](#)).
2. The poor in spirit: shall be given the Kingdom of Heaven ([v.3](#)).
3. Those who mourn: shall be comforted ([v.4](#)).
4. The meek: shall inherit the earth ([v.5](#)).
5. Those who hunger and thirst after righteousness: shall be filled ([v.6](#)).
6. The merciful: shall obtain mercy ([v.7](#)).
7. The pure in heart: shall see God ([v.8](#)).
8. The peacemakers: shall be called the children of God ([v.9](#)).
9. The persecuted: shall be given the Kingdom of Heaven ([v.10-12](#)).

2. ([Matthew 5:3](#)) **Poor in Spirit:** to acknowledge spiritual poverty. It is poverty, absolute and abject poverty of spirit. It is being destitute and conspicuously poor in spirit. Note several significant facts about the “*poor in spirit*.”

1. Being *poor in spirit* does not mean that a man must be poverty-stricken and financially poor. Hunger, nakedness, and slums are not pleasing to God, especially in a world of plenty. Christ is not talking about material poverty. He means what He says: poor in spirit. Being “**poor in spirit**” means several things.

- a. **To acknowledge our utter helplessness before God, our spiritual poverty, our spiritual need.** We are solely dependent upon God to meet our need.
- b. **To acknowledge our utter lack in facing life and eternity apart from God.** To acknowledge that the real blessings of life and eternity come only from a right relationship with God (see [Ephes. 1:3](#); cp. [John 10:10](#); [Galatians 5:22-23](#)).
- c. **To acknowledge our utter lack of superiority before all others and our spiritual deadness before God.** To acknowledge that we are no better, no richer, no more superior than the next person—no matter what we have achieved in this world (fame, fortune, power). Our attitude toward others is not proud and haughty, not superior and overbearing. To be "poor in spirit" means acknowledging that every human being is a real person just like everyone else—a person who has a significant contribution to make to society and to the world. The person "poor in spirit" approaches life in humility and appreciation, not as though life owes him, but as though he owes life. He has been given the privilege of living; therefore, he journeys through life with a humble attitude and he contributes all he can to a needy world out of a spirit of appreciation.