

### **Review of previous Beatitudes:**

The Beatitudes are a description of the character of a child of the Kingdom of Christ. These virtues/qualities should exist in within the life of EVERY child of God. These should be YOUR ATTITUDES!

As you grow in grace and in the knowledge of your Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, these attitudes should be MORE obvious in your character.

### **When you go back to the history of the Kingdom of God; the OT was quite full of military campaigns under many of her kings: Especially David!**

It's easy to see how Israel looked for their Messiah to be a military type commander and Messiah; a warrior who would rise up and defeat Israel's oppressors and foes. But that was not to be the case with Jesus the Son of God. He came to make peace a different way. Luke 2:7-14

Jesus came to save sinners and bring them into a state of peace with God. There would be war and battles, but they would not be against the Romans, but against the devil and the forces of darkness. Jesus came to free captives of sin and from Satan, the god of this world, not from the Romans.

The problem? Every one of US is born into this world an enemy of God! We are born into this slavery!

There isn't a human born of a woman who is born at peace with God.

Job 14:1: Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble

This is the reason that the world is so full of anger, wrath, malice, wars, fighting, contentions, and consequently little to NO PEACE is because the world is full of sin and wickedness. Psalms 58:3

Sinful man is estranged from God because of his sins; he is an enemy of God; God is angry at the wicked every day; if God would not have intervened on our behalf there would never be any peace on earth between humans, or between God and men.

Isaiah 57:20-21, Romans 5:1-2

### **Blessed are the peacemakers: In the OT, the word peace is translated Shalom; it means freedom from disturbance, whether outwardly, from enemies, or inwardly, within the soul.**

It is a wish or desire for freedom from strife and conflict, and an inward sense of wellbeing toward your neighbor. Shalom should resonate from within our hearts in all of our relationships. Shalom should resonate from the Kingdom of Christ within us!

Christians should NOT be contentious to stir up strife, conflict, or always be ready to fight; they should instead always be making every effort to resolve conflicts, strife, & fighting. Eph 4:1-3, 1 Thess 5:12-13

Every one of Paul's letters begins with grace and PEACE.

Peter went further when he wrote: Grace and Peace be multiplied

**Consider these quotes: Where two or three are gathered together, there will be a fight!**

Peace is that glorious moment in history when everyone stops to reload.

Think about it, the world is full of peace treaties between nations and peoples; there are literally hundreds of them; but with all of those treaties, why is there is NO true peace in the world?

*The only nation or Kingdom where true peace reigns between peoples from every earthly land is in the Kingdom of God. The only people who possess this true peace are those at peace with God.*

Children of God, you're the only people on the planet that are Blessed & Qualified to be Peacemakers; makers of peace between peoples, and in effect specifically qualified to point people to the only place in which true peace can be found, in Christ, and to the God of peace.

**But being a peacemaker oftentimes is entering yourself into the middle of a conflict; which can be very trying: Psalm 120:6-7**

To be a Peacemaker, you will find yourself involved in your neighbor's life, (at times) right in the middle of contention and strife between friends, family and co-workers and regrettably, sometimes brethren.

A peacemaker de-escalates conflict; they speaks from the realm of peace, from the Kingdom of Christ, where the peace of God governs.

*Colossians 3:15: Let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful*

*Romans 14:17: For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.*

Peacemakers answer harsh and rude words softly, because they possess the character of God within: they are poor in spirit & hate the onset of sin in any form; they are also meek, merciful, and pure in heart. There will never be a shortage of contention, strife, fighting, and hatred between people that are very close to us.

**And, never forget this Christian; you're not merely a subject of the Kingdom of Christ, you're sons and daughters of the King.**

John Broadus: We need not wonder at this exalted promise to peacemakers, for theirs is a very difficult but a very noble achievement. They must often be content to bear bitter complaints from both sides. They must exercise great self-control, unwearied patience, and loving tact, and they must be manifestly impartial and unselfish. There is no more Godlike work to be done in this world than peacemaking.

Remember, these are NOT commands, but evidences of genuine faith in Christ. *Hebrews 12:14*