

The Sermon on the Mount opens with what we call the Beatitudes:

The Beatitudes describe for us the spiritual qualities and identifying characteristics of children of the Kingdom of Christ. Christian, these "attitudes" should exist in YOU! They should be obvious in your life; they are powerful "evidences" that the Kingdom of God is within you!

Luke 17:20-21

In Psalm 1, we have an OT Beatitude, in which, God gives a few other becoming qualities; identifying characteristics of a child of God. Psalm 1 describes the characteristics of godly man or woman. Psalm 1:1-6

"Blessed is the man (or woman):

You will hear people in the world talking about being blessed, and yet most humans don't know what the word "blessed" means from a Biblical perspective.

"Blessed" means: How happy! Happiness! Not an earthy, earthly, or worldly happiness, but a solid and enduring "otherworld" happiness that grows stronger with every passing day lived in love to Christ!

But O how many lost humans there are in the world that cannot know this "blessedness" because they do not know God, nor will they acknowledge Him as God! This blessedness is upon the godly, NOT the ungodly!

Nonetheless, God DOES bless the ungodly in the world, despite their hatred and rebellion against Him. (Although many deny when God blesses them); it doesn't matter what they deny!

When the ungodly ARE blessed of God; they should be worship God and offer praise and thanksgiving to Him for all that He gives them in this life, and when they could know the God who bestowed the blessing, AND KNOW true happiness, they refuse, for the love and deceptive pleasure of their sins.

Romans 1:21: Psalm 1, begins with blessedness ~ happiness, which is the fruit of godliness!

Psalm 1:1: "Blessed is the man that walketh NOT in the counsel of the ungodly, NOR standeth in the way of sinners, NOR sitteth in the seat of the scornful"

First, understand that there are (3) negative characteristics of the blessed man. He is described in what I would like to call "GOOD NEGATIVES".

Have you ever heard someone say, I learned how to do this or that by watching someone do it completely wrong! God often teaches us powerful moral lessons of what and who we should be, by putting before us what and who we must not be!

Here in (V1): "THAT MAN" is blessed who WALKS NOT in the counsel of the ungodly, NOR STANDS in the way of sinners, and who DOES NOT SIT in the scorner's seat. THAT MAN is "BLESSED" for what he DOES NOT DO!

The wicked are described here as ungodly, sinners, and scorners.

To resist God in irreverence, to be against all that is called God, to refuse to obey His holy commands and bow in humility before Him, and to NOT acknowledge Him as God is a good start to what it means to be UNGODLY.

The 1st characteristic of the godly and blessed man; he DOES NOT WALK in the counsel of the ungodly:

If we, as children of God would WALK NOT in the counsel of the ungodly, we must begin by REFUSING to entertain, or listen to their advice, strong opinions, and counsel. And know this, the ungodly man HAS opinions, counsel, and advice for you, and he's gonna give it to you whether you want to hear it or not. But be assured of this, none of his counsel or advice includes honoring or obeying God!

The godly man WALKS NOT in the counsel of the ungodly!

WALKING describes your behavior and how you conduct yourself morally in your life. If you would "exercise yourself unto godliness", you must actively exercise yourself in resisting ungodliness! If you would resist ungodliness, you must WALK NOT, after the counsel of the ungodly!

Ephesians 5:15: "See that ye (Christian) walk circumspectly, (cautiously and with watchfulness) not as fools, but as wise"

This is the first "good negative", we learn about godliness by learning, and being warned about ungodliness!

KNOWING THIS, it is imperative for us as Christians, **as we live "every day" IN THE WORLD, to be "every day" IN THE WORD,** so that WE KNOW the good and right paths (godly counsel), AND...paths which we must refuse, which come from ungodly counsel. Psalm 119:105, 130

Most ungodly counsel should be intuitively obvious to us as Christians:

Proverbs 1:15, 4:10-19, 2 Chronicles 22:1-3

The 2nd characteristic of the godly and blessed man; he DOES NOT STAND in THE WAY of sinners"

First, consider the Psalmists words "THE WAY". This means your track, direction, and course of life. What is YOUR WAY? YOUR WAY may be despised and rejected by others, but is your way the way of godly saints or ungodly sinners? Acts 9:1-2, 19:8-10, 21-23

THIS WAY, which we read of, is the godly man's WAY, it is NOT the way or path of sinners.

The godly man DOES NOT STAND in the way of sinners. To STAND (here) means "to be established and fixed on a certain course".

The godly man STANDS and is established on a course of life (and a way) that is in complete contrast to the way of sinners.

The godly man has Christ for his foundation, Christ is the Anchor of his soul! He stands and is fixed upon Christ!
Colossians 1:21-23, 2:6-8

The blessed and godly man DOES NOT STAND or ESTABLISH and FIX himself in "the way" sinners. Proverbs 1:15

Romans 5:1-2, 1 Corinthians 16:13, Philippians 1:27, 4:1

The way of sinners describes a course of life (in fallen humans) that is habitually sinful! Christian, this MUST NOT be your way/course of life!

The THIRD characteristic of the godly and blessed man; he DOES NOT SIT in the seat of the scornful.

TO SIT means to dwell, abide, and continue in a place, or course of life...or to sit in familiar company. Psalm 26:1-5, 101:6-7, 132:13-15

Who are the scornful? They are scoffers and mockers who are bold, arrogant, and boisterous against God.

Scorners arrogantly despise God and hold His Word in contempt. But they don't stop there, they don't keep their wicked opinions to themselves, they LOUDLY influence all who sit under them and heed their damnable teachings. Loudmouth, Boisterous, and opinionated unbelievers sit in the scorner's seat; they make themselves to be masters and teachers of wickedness, they are Satan's dogmatic and pompous pontificators.

CHS called them "Doctors of damnation"!

2 Peter 3:3-4, 2:1-3, Jude 14-19. Be careful of coming under the influence of scorners...and never take the scorner's seat!

The BLESSED GODLY (man or woman) WALKS NOT in the counsel of the ungodly, NOR STANDS in the way of sinners, NOR SITS in the seat of the scornful"

In closing, you might be here and you're lost, UNGODLY:

Don't despair, as we read in the 1st hour, Christ died for the ungodly:

Jude 1:15, Romans 5:6-10

TONIGHT: "But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in His law doth he meditate day and night"

The Psalmist transitions to the "positive commands", which are the godly man's delight! His pleasure, his study, and the exercise of his mind is in the truth of God's Word and in the gospel of Jesus Christ!