

Jesus the Teacher

CFW 2 Aug 15

Introduction. In that first year the gospels don't give us a lot of detail as to places visited etc. and what took place, there is the record of many miracles but nothing of what is taught

Matt 4;23 & Luke 4;42-44 Jesus travels around Galilee preaching from city to city in their synagogues, "Repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand".

During that year Jesus calls his disciples, Matthew is the last one. It is probable that they weren't fulltime followers of Jesus till that 2nd year, and it's in this 2nd year that we get an insight into the content of what Jesus taught

Before we get to that, it is clear that Jesus had built a large following and was not popular with the religious leaders. Those who followed and listened made comments like.....

We have never seen anything like this, Mk1
amazed at His teaching, His message had authority, Lk4
no one ever spoke the way this man does Jn7
words are spirit and life, you have the words of eternal life

Amazed, Astonished, Marvelled, Authority, Power all words used to describe how wonderful this Messiah was and is spoken of.

Matt 12;14-21 quotes Isaiah 42;1-4, describes qualities of the Messiah.

The Sermon on the Mount Matt 5;1-10 & 7;28,29

The crowds follow Jesus and He healed them, Jesus withdraws to a mountainside and Matthew records what Jesus taught, starting with the Beattitudes.

The first and last are like parenthesis around them all, Blessed are..... for theirs is the kingdom, it is a literary way of saying all of the beatitudes are attributes of kingdom people.

Quoting from Selwyn Hughes book "The Divine Attitudes"

Blessed (Happy)—*Gk Makarios* it suggests a deep abiding happiness, not just a temporary emotional lift. Having spiritual wellbeing, prosperity, happiness is not something you make but something you receive.

This blessing isn't pursued like you attain it or earn it, it's an attribute, you become it, it describes you.

Poor in spirit *Gk ptochos* - a chosen poverty. Implies a voluntary emptying of the inner being and refers to those who by choice are so poor that they become poor enough to receive.

Acknowledging I haven't got it all, haven't got enough, my resources are insufficient. My thoughts, my strength, my will, my way – all fall far short. Goes on to say I will not trust my ways, thoughts, strength, I'm trusting completely in you Jesus. I'm poor, I see I don't have it all, I become poor enough to receive.

Receive what? The Kingdom, the realm and rule of Jesus. Now that is a blessed place to be.

Blessed are the Meek *Gk praos*

Psalm 37;11 But the meek will inherit the land and enjoy great peace.
Meekness is not weakness. Gentle, mild, meek.

The truly meek person in the biblical sense of the word is not timid, shy, hesitant and unassuming but trusting, confident and secure. The root meaning of the word meekness is that of yieldedness or surrender.

Meekness as Jesus is using the word here, refers to an attitude of heart and mind that is entirely free from a spirit of demandingness and accepts the will of God in its entirety.

The meek person is so secure in his identity in the Kingdom, that he does not need to demand anything for himself. Why? Because of whose he is and who is in him. Gal.2:20.

Free, free from fear, free from others opinions and expectations.

They will inherit the earth. They don't strive for it, grasp for it, earn it. They receive it as a gift from another.