

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: The Secret of Satisfaction

SERMON REFERENCE: Matthew 5:6

LWF SERMON NUMBER: #1659

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) The Beatitudes are not platitudes because the world's system would never agree with what they say.
- b) The Beatitudes are a series of statements that begin with the word "blessed."
 - i) "Blessed" means to be satisfied, to be secure and to be full of joy.
- c) The world's idea of blessedness is to be rich, powerful, handsome, intelligent, comfortable, and to have plenty.
 - i) But that's not what Jesus says.
 - (1) While the world thinks that a person is blessed by what he has, the Ten Commandments places the emphasis primarily on what he does.
 - (a) The Beatitudes goes beyond even that.
 - (i) The Ten Commandments deal with outward action; the Beatitudes deal with the heart.
- d) Matthew 5:1-6
 - i) Matthew 5:3
 - (1) "Blessed are the poor in spirit."
 - (a) Blessed are those who see themselves spiritually, morally bankrupt.
 - (i) They see their condition.
 - ii) Matthew 5:4
 - (1) "Blessed are they that mourn."
 - (a) After they see their condition, then comes contrition.
 - (b) They are broken about their sin, broken over their sin and broken from their sin.
 - iii) Matthew 5:5
 - (1) "Blessed are the meek."
 - (a) This is their compliance.
 - (b) They are now ready and willing to do God's will.
 - (c) To be meek is to be submitted, yielded to the will of God.
 - iv) Matthew 5:6
 - (1) "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled."
 - (a) To have your deepest hunger met.
- e) God, by the Holy Spirit, wants to create in us a hunger for something that we desperately need and cannot live without, which is righteousness.
 - i) If we hunger and thirst after righteousness, then we will be satisfied.
- f) We often think of righteousness as something we do, but righteousness in the Bible is wrapped up in a person whose name is Jesus.
 - i) 1 Corinthians 1:30
 - (1) Jesus Christ is our righteousness.
 - (a) He is made righteousness for us.
 - ii) When we hunger and thirst after righteousness, we are hungering and thirsting after Jesus Christ.
- g) Life's hidden hunger is Jesus Christ Himself.

- i) The deepest need of our lives is a right relationship with God through Jesus Christ.
 - h) Today's message will mention three ways in which we are to hunger after the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 2) WE SHOULD DESIRE JESUS PREEMINENTLY (MATTHEW 6:33)
- a) We should desire Jesus above all other things.
 - b) God made us to hunger and thirst physically.
 - i) There is nothing wrong with hungering and thirsting physically.
 - ii) But we make a mistake when we seek food, water, fashion or fitness first.
 - (1) Matthew 6:33
 - (2) There is nothing wrong with these things in their proper place, and their place is second.
 - iii) We're to seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness.
 - (1) God will not take second place to anybody or anything.
 - c) Jesus is to be first in our lives.
 - i) Jesus Christ is Heaven's bread for man's deepest hunger.
 - d) Matthew 5:6
 - i) Blessed are those who are hungering and thirsting after Jesus, who put Jesus first.
 - (1) Matthew 6:33
 - e) Most people don't want to seek righteousness; they want to seek blessedness.
 - i) By wanting satisfaction, we don't get it.
 - ii) By wanting happiness, we don't get it.
 - iii) By wanting blessedness, we don't get it.
 - (1) What we need is not primarily satisfaction, happiness or blessedness.
 - (2) What we need is Jesus.
 - iv) When we receive Jesus (when we hunger and thirst after Jesus), then we are blessed.
 - (1) The blessedness is a by-product.
 - f) The lack of blessedness, joy, satisfaction, peace and fulfillment in our lives is a symptom that tells us something is wrong.
 - i) This causes us to seek the remedy, which is Jesus Christ.
 - ii) It is foolish to treat the symptom without treating the disease.
 - (1) Man's problem is unrighteousness.
 - (2) Out of unrighteousness comes all of these other issues.
 - iii) Until we come to the place where we see that our deepest need is Jesus and we focus our ambitions on seeking Him, we will not have our deepest needs met.
 - g) In the material realm, food and water are necessities, not luxuries.
 - i) So it is, too, in the spiritual realm.
 - (1) Jesus Christ is not a luxury; He is a necessity.
 - h) All we will ever need spiritually is in Jesus Christ.

- i) Colossians 2:9
 - i) When we get Jesus, we get everything.
 - i) We will never go beyond Jesus.
 - ii) Jesus Christ is the Alpha and Omega.
 - (1) Revelation 1:8
 - (a) Alpha is the first letter in the Greek alphabet, and omega is the last letter in the Greek alphabet.
 - (2) All of the wisdom of God is in Jesus.
 - j) 2 Timothy 1:12
- 3) WE SHOULD SEEK JESUS PASSIONATELY (MATTHEW 5:6)
 - a) A hungry person is on a deliberate quest for food.
 - i) Matthew 5:6
 - (1) Jesus is not referring to someone who simply has an appetite, but someone who sees himself broken, bankrupt and famished.
 - ii) Someone who is this hungry has a narrow focus.
 - (1) He is interested only in food and water.
 - (2) His mind stays on food and water.
 - (a) Oftentimes in church, our minds are in a thousand other places because we're not hungry.
 - b) A hungry person is determined.
 - i) That deliberate quest for food becomes a determined quest.
 - ii) He's on a determined search for food; he's going to be fed.
 - (1) Can you imagine a starving person saying, "If someone wants to feed me, they may?"
 - iii) A person who is hungry and thirsty will pay a price.
 - (1) The person who is not hungry or thirsty will not pay a price.
 - c) A hungry person is in a desperate quest for food.
 - i) He will go anywhere, do almost anything and pay any price.
 - (1) Beggars scrounging for food have lost all of their pride.
 - ii) Yet, many people go to church and find something to criticize.
 - (1) People who come to pick and find fault are not hungry.
 - (2) If you come to find Jesus, He is there.
 - (a) It depends upon the appetite you bring to church.
 - d) Have you narrowed your interests down to one interest?
 - i) Do you see Jesus Christ as your greatest need?
 - ii) Do you seek Jesus as a starving person would seek food?
 - (1) When you come to that place, you're going to find Him.
 - e) Why are some people not hungry?
 - i) They could be sick.
 - (1) When we're sick, we lose our appetite.
 - ii) They could be full of something else.
 - (1) Perhaps feeding on the world's garbage.
 - (2) Proverbs 27:7

- 4) WE ARE TO ENJOY JESUS PERPETUALLY (MATTHEW 5:6)
 - a) We have all of God that we want.
 - i) Shallow thirst, shallow satisfaction.
 - ii) Small hunger, small satisfaction.
 - b) Matthew 5:6
 - i) Jesus said no if's, and's, or but's about it, we will be satisfied.
 - ii) When we are filled with righteousness, we are filled with blessedness.
 - c) Some have the idea that righteousness is a negative thing.
 - i) Some people have the idea that to be righteous means that you have no fun.
 - (1) This is not true.
 - (2) To be righteous is to be blessed.
 - ii) Happiness and holiness are inextricably linked together.
 - (1) We do not lose the good things of life when we come to Jesus.
 - (a) Matthew 6:33
 - (i) This verse does not say that all these things will be taken away from you but added to you.
 - (2) We enjoy all those things more in the context of righteousness.
 - (3) 1 Timothy 6:17
 - (a) God does not say that He doesn't want us to be blessed.
 - (i) He simply wants us to get our priorities right.
 - d) Our spiritual hungers are like our physical hungers.
 - i) God allows us in the physical realm to have continual appetite that we might have continual satisfaction.
 - ii) Being satisfied is not a once-for-all thing any more than eating a meal is a once-for-all thing.
 - (1) We have a continual hunger because that food satisfied us.
 - (a) Our appetite is increased because of the goodness of the food and the satisfaction that it brought.
 - iii) We come to the Lord Jesus, and we're continually hungry and continually being satisfied.
 - (1) When we desire Him preeminently and seek Him passionately, then we will enjoy Him perpetually.
 - e) When we meet the Lord Jesus Christ in all of His fullness, then we have that blessedness and all of these other things are added to us.
 - i) We will be completely satisfied, continually satisfied, and certainly satisfied because Jesus said it will happen.
 - (1) Matthew 5:6
 - (2) Matthew 6:33
 - (3) Psalm 107:9
 - (4) 1 Peter 2:3
 - (5) Psalm 34:8

5) CONCLUSION

- a) Do you want to know the satisfaction that only Jesus can bring?
- b) You can pray to Him today and ask Him to come into your life.
- c) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16