

Expository Thoughts On Matthew - Matthew 5:1-12

by J.C. Ryle

Transcript

THE three chapters which begin with these verses deserve the special attention of all readers of the Bible. They contain what is commonly called the "Sermon on the Mount."

Every word of the Lord Jesus ought to be most precious to professing Christians. It is the voice of the Chief Shepherd; it is the charge of the great Bishop and Head of the Church; it is the Master speaking; it is the word of Him who "spoke as never man spoke," and by whom we shall be judged at the last day.

Would we know what kind of people Christians ought to be? Would we know the character at which Christians ought to aim? Would we know the outward walk and inward habit of mind which become a follower of Christ? Then let us often study the Sermon on the Mount. Let us often ponder each sentence, and prove ourselves by it. Not least, let us often consider who they are that are called "blessed" at the beginning of the Sermon. Those whom the great High Priest blesses are blessed indeed!

The Lord Jesus calls those "blessed" who are poor in spirit. He means the humble, and lowly-minded, and self-abased; He means those who are deeply convinced of their own sinfulness in God's

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