

The Beatitudes

Blessed are those who are convinced of their basic dependency on God, whose lives are emptied of all that doesn't matter. Those for whom the riches of this world just aren't that important.

The Kingdom of God is theirs.

Blessed are those who know that all they are is a gift from God, and so they can be content with their greatness and their smallness, knowing themselves and being true to themselves.

For they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Blessed are those who wear compassion like a garment, those who have learned how to find themselves by losing themselves in another's sorrow.

For they too shall received comfort.

Blessed are those who are hungry for goodness, those who never get enough of God and truth and righteousness.

For they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, those who remember how much has been forgiven them and are able to extend this forgiveness into the lives of other.

For they too shall receive God's mercy.

Blessed are those whose hearts are free and simple, those who have smashed false images and are seeking honestly for truth.

For they shall see God.

Blessed are the creators of peace, those who build roads that unite rather than walls that divide, those who bless the world with the healing power of their presence.

For they shall be called children of God.

Blessed are those whose love has been tried, like gold in the furnace and found to be precious, genuine and lasting, those who have lived their belief out loud no matter what the cost or pain.

For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.