## I. The Beatitudes – 5:1-12

## Jesus describes those whom God blesses

- The Poor in Spirit 3 Man looks on external, God looks on the heart Those who are lowly, no ability to please God Prerequisite for entrance into God's kingdom
- Those who mourn 4 Recognize their need, acknowledge their sin God will comfort those who come to Him
- 3. The meek 5 Gentle, those who humbly submit to God They shall inherit the earth Fulfill God's plan for man to rule the earthly sphere
- Hungry & thirsty for righteousness 6 Desire to live righteous, godly lives God will satisfy that desire in Christ
- 5. Those showing mercy to others -7 God's mercy will be poured out on them
- The pure in heart 8 Inwardly clean, undefiled, genuine They will stand before God – Ours in Christ
- The peacemakers 9
   Seek to promote peace rather than conflict God's children demonstrate His likeness
- 8. Those persecuted for righteousness 10-12 They will share in God's glorious kingdom Respond joyfully when suffering for Christ sake Even when falsely accused Joy comes as we focus on reward in heaven We are in good company – God's prophets
- 9. Godly qualities impact our world 13-16
  As salt has an impact on food 13
  If it loses that ability to impact it is worthless
  As a light has an impact on darkness 14-15
  Whether the corporate impact of a city on a hill
  Or the single light of a candle in a dark house
  We are to be a light for God in our dark world 16

## II. Christ and the Law - 5:17-47

- He came to fulfill God's law 17 Didn't come to destroy, do away with God's law He came to fulfill it, live it out perfectly His perfect righteousness is imputed to us 2 Corinthians 5:21
- 2. Fulfillment of God's law is essential 18-19 Not slightest part of God's law can go unfulfilled Those who share God's Kingdom live by His law

His Holy Spirit fulfills it in us – Romans 8:2-4 God's holy standard cannot change

- 3. God's law goes beyond externals 20 Righteousness of religious leaders falls short
- 4. Jesus reveals depth of the law 21-47
  (1). He speaks about murder 21-26 Murder is a violation of God's law – 21 Anger & hatred are also sin in God's eyes – 22 Both make us guilty and in danger of judgment Both hinder our fellowship with God – 23-26 Reconcile with brother before you come to God
  - (2). He speaks about adultery 27-32
    Adultery is a violation of God's law 27
    Lust is also a sin in God's eyes 28
    Need to exercise control over our body 29-30
    Some divorce can also lead to adultery 31-32
  - (3). He speaks about oaths 33-37
    Swearing before the Lord it is binding 33
    Some claim lesser oaths are not binding 34-36
    As by heaven, earth, Jerusalem, your head
    Simple yes and no ought to be binding 37
    Anything less is displeasing in God's eyes
  - (4). He speaks about vengeance 38-42
    Eye for an eye was the standard for justice 38
    Retribution is not to go beyond that point
    God's law does not require you pay back 39-42
    You can submit to what others require of you
  - (5). Does Law allow hatred of enemies 43-48 Lev. 19:18 says "love your neighbor as yourself" Christ's law teaches us to love our enemies – 44 This is true of God and of His children – 45-48