

**Blessed are the poor in spirit.**  
AM Service Matthew 5:1-3 January 14, 2018

**Introduction**

**The Book of Matthew**

1. Author and Date
2. Theme
3. How does it fit in the STORY?

**Sermon on the Mount**

If we were to summarize the Sermon on the Mount in a single statement, it would be something like this: Jesus tells us how to live a life that is dedicated to and pleasing to God, free from hypocrisy, full of love and grace, full of wisdom and discernment. (MacArthur)

This sermon is -

1. a masterful exposition of the law
2. a potent assault on Pharisaic legalism
3. a call to true faith and salvation (7:13–29).

**The Beatitudes**

“blessed”

**Blessed are the poor in spirit.**

**One Characteristic of True Faith – Poor in Spirit**

“poor in spirit”

*Matt 9:9-13*

*Luke 18:9-14*

*Matt 19:16-26*

**One Blessing of True Faith – The Kingdom of Heaven**

What is the kingdom of heaven?

**The Sermon on the Mount is descriptive before it is prescriptive.**

It describes what the Christian *is* before talking of what the Christian *should do*.

**What did we learn today?**

What is the character of a believer?

What makes the believer blessed?

1. This kingdom is a kingdom of the heart.
2. Life in the kingdom can be hard.
3. What does “blessed” mean?

“This is the very opposite of a worldly outlook. Jesus is promising the greatest of all blessings to those who are part of His kingdom. These are blessings both for the present and for the future. And they are blessings of usefulness, for those whose lives are portrayed here are the salt of the earth (v. 13) and the light of the world (v. 14). They are in a position of influence and good in which they are able to stem the tide of corruption and darkness that engulfs a fallen world.” (Iain Campbell, Opening Up Matthew)

**How about you?**

What is our reality?

We have nothing in ourselves.

But we have everything in Christ Jesus.

~ Pastor Mark D. Montgomery