

# Luke 6:20-26 - The Blessed Life According to Jesus

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## A different way of looking at the world - "Life According to Jesus"

Luk 6:20-26 NIV Looking at his disciples, he said: "Blessed are you who are **poor**, for yours is the kingdom of God. 21 Blessed are you who **hunger** now, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who **weep** now, for you will laugh. 22 Blessed are you when people **hate** you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man. 23 "Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets. 24 "But woe to you who are rich, for you have already received your comfort. 25 Woe to you who are well fed now, for you will go hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you will mourn and weep. 26 Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

## He is speaking to core issues that touch each of our lives

- Blessed are the poor --- Security (*what do I value*)
- Blessed are the hungry --- Fulfillment (*what will satisfy me*)
- Blessed are you who weep --- Deepest Emotions (*what moves me*)
- Blessed are you when men hate you --- Approval

## Security

### **Blessed Are The Poor ---FOR---Yours is the Kingdom of Heaven**

His first words are to draw a contrast between two value systems (financial) and (kingdom)

### **What did he see in the kingdom of God that moved him to sell everything gain it?**

- Mat 13:44 NIV "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

## **The Riches of God**

- Rom 2:4 ... the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience - leads us to repentance
- Rom 9:23 ... the riches of his glory (Eph\_3:16, Php\_4:19, Col\_1:27)
- Rom 11:33 ... the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God
- Eph 1:7 ... in accordance with the riches of God's grace - the forgiveness of sins
- Eph 1:18 ... the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people
- Eph 2:7 ... the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus
- Eph 3:8 ... this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ

## **Riches and the heart of man**

- Psa 62:10 ESV Put no trust in extortion; set no vain hopes on robbery; if riches increase, **set not your heart on them.**
- Luk 12:34 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

## **Riches as a value system can blind us to the true condition of our heart**

- Rev 3:17 NIV You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and **do not need a thing.**' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked...

## **How can I embrace a kingdom value system?**

Heb 11:26 NIV He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of **greater value** than the **treasures of Egypt**, because he was looking ahead to his reward.

- 1) It was a decision based in faith and hope
  - **Because he was looking ahead to his reward**
- 2) He evaluated the facts from God's perspective
  - **Disgrace for Christ - Greater than treasures of Egypt**
- 3) It was a thought process that reached a decision/choice
  - **He Regarded-** to think about something - and that thought takes the lead/precedent

## **Fulfillment**

- Hunger is a necessary part of life...it is what drives us to eat and sustain ourselves
- There is also a spiritual hunger that is just as real - designed to drive us to Him

## **Am I trying to satisfy my hunger with that which will only leave me empty?**

- Isa 55:1-2 GNT "Come, everyone who is thirsty — here is water! Come, you that have no money--buy grain and eat! Come! Buy wine and milk--it will cost you nothing! Why spend money on what does not satisfy? **Why spend your wages and still be hungry? Listen to me and do what I say, and you will enjoy the best food of all**".

## **Only Jesus can satisfy the hunger that is in the soul of every man**

- Joh 6:35 KJV And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.
- Joh 7:37 KJV In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.

## **He satisfies the longing soul - praise Him**

- Psalms 107:8-9 KJV Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! (9) For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness.
  - Satisfaction only comes after hunger
  - What is it that I hunger for
  - What is it that I think will satisfy?

## **Our Prayer - to recognize those longings as a need for deeper relationship**

- Psa 73:25-26 KJV Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee. 26 My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.

## Deepest Emotions - (what is it that truly moves me?)

### **Why do we weep?**

- Lost boyfriend or girlfriend? - Death of a loved one? - Loss of a job?
- Typically we weep over things that cause us emotional turmoil - or loss
- But what if we could weep over the issues of our life that are not aligned with God?

### **The woman who was a sinner - looked to be forgiven and back in fellowship**

Luk 7:36-50 KJV And one of the Pharisees desired him that he would eat with him. And he went into the Pharisee's house, and sat down to meat. 37 And, behold, a woman in the city, which was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at meat in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster box of ointment, 38 And **stood at his feet behind him weeping, and began to wash his feet with tears, and did wipe them with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed them with the ointment.**

- She wept because she was a sinner and wanted to be right with him
- Simon had no recognition of his heart's true condition - he was NOT moved to weep

### **Peter Denied the LORD & wept bitterly**

Luk 22:60-62 KJV And Peter said, Man, I know not what thou sayest. And immediately, while he yet spake, the cock crew. 61 And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. 62 And Peter went out, and wept bitterly.

- **Peter wept** - in his heart he wanted to die for Christ
- he wanted to believe that he had the wherewithal to never deny him
- he thought he was different from others

### **May we weep about those things that keep us distant from the LORD**

Jas 4:8-10 KJV Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. 9 **Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep:** let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. 10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

- **Weeping remains for a night - Joy comes in the morning - The end of this is joy**
  - He will draw near to us
  - He will lift us up

## Approval (the need for the approval of others)

### **Who am I seeking to please? - I can't please both**

- Gal 1:10 KJV For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

### **They loved praise of men MORE than the praise of God**

- Joh 12:42-43 KJV Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: 43 For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

**I do always those things that please him.**

- Joh 8:29 KJV And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for **I do always those things that please him.**

What if we took these things to heart as a growth project?

1. May I consider my values - and with faith step make a decision to be kingdom minded
2. May I recognize that my search for satisfaction is simply the call upon my heart to a deeper relationship with my creator
3. May I weep and mourn about those things that keep me distant from him - until I am restored to that place
4. I always do those things that please the Father