

## **Bringing the Beatitudes to Life**

*Matthew 5:3–12*

—

**Tom Pennington**

Sept. 28, 2025

**MAIN IDEA:** The Beatitudes describe all true Christians, meaning *every* believer in Jesus Christ displays *all* the qualities (8) that Jesus states in the Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5:3, 10). And every true Christian must put forth maximum effort to grow in these qualities, while understanding that God is ultimately responsible for inward change.

In Matthew 5:3–12, we consider how to apply the beatitudes to our everyday Christian life

### **OUTLINE:**

- I. A Tutor to Jesus Christ
- II. A Test of Genuine Salvation
- III. A Textbook for Kingdom Living
- IV. A Testimony to Our Future

### **BIBLICAL/THEOLOGICAL QUESTIONS**

1. Read Galatians 3:23–25. What is the two-fold purpose of the law of God? What role do the Beatitudes play with respect to the law of God? Discuss.

### **APPLICATION QUESTIONS:**

1. How can we use the Beatitudes as a spiritual diagnostic test to determine whether we truly have believed in the gospel of Jesus Christ? See also 2 Corinthians 13:5.

2. In your pursuit of living like a biblical Christian, which of the beatitudes do you fail at the most? Which of the beatitudes have you seen positive growth? Discuss.

3. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:10 (“excel still more”). Why should we as Christians heed Paul’s admonition? How can the Beatitudes be used as a starting point to pursue Christlikeness?

4. What is the relationship between the Beatitudes and our future glorification in the new heaven and earth? How does this relationship fuel our pursuit of the Beatitudes now?