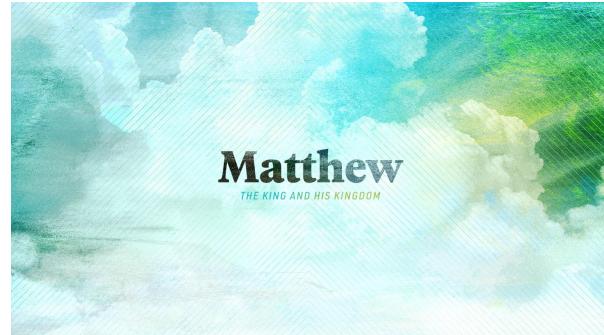


# Matthew 5:1-12, Week 3

Pastor Jim Thomas

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## SERMON NOTES



### **Matthew**

The King and His Kingdom

### **Matthew 5:7-12**

The Beatitudes, Part 3

The Beatitudes describe the character of those whose values, affections and allegiances have been transferred to King Jesus and the kingdom of heaven.

#### **Pattern of the Beatitudes:**

1. Pronouncement of blessedness
2. Condition of the heart
3. Reward or benefit

*"Grace-based, wisdom invitations to human flourishing in God's kingdom."*

- Dr. Jonathan T. Pennington

*"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."*

- Matthew 5:7

#### **Two ways we struggle with God's mercy:**

1. We struggle to believe God would offer mercy to us.
2. We struggle to believe God should/would offer mercy to our "repugnant other."

*"Jesus has not stopped receiving sinners and eating with them. And people have not stopped accusing Him for that mercy. Sometimes the accusers are also those He eats with, but He receives them still."*

- Alan Noble

*"There are no 'good people,' and the best of us say so the most clearly. Saints agree they are sinners; only sinners think they are saints. Only fools demand justice, for where would we be if we got it? No, mercy is our only hope from God, and our neighbors' only hope from us as well."*

- Peter Kreeft, *Back to Virtue*

*"Nothing moves us to forgive like the wondering knowledge that we ourselves have been forgiven. Nothing proves more clearly that we have been forgiven than our own readiness to forgive."*

- John Stott

*"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."*

- Matthew 5:8

*"It is safe to tell the pure in heart that they shall see God, for only the pure in heart want to."*

- C.S. Lewis, *The Problem of Pain*

*"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God."*

- Matthew 5:9

*"I wonder if anything is more urgent today, for the honour of Christ and for the spread of the gospel, than what the church should be, and should be seen to be, what by God's purpose and Christ's achievement it already is — a single new humanity, a model of human community, a family of reconciled brothers and sisters who love their Father and love each other, the evident dwelling place of God by his Spirit. Only then will the world believe in Christ as Peacemaker. Only then will God receive the glory due to His name."*

- John Stott

*"Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people insult you, and persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."*

- Matthew 5:10-12

*"No wonder the early Christians made an impression out of all proportion to their numbers. Conviction in the midst of waverers, fiery energy in a world of disillusion, purity in an age of easy morals, firm brotherhood in a loose society, heroic courage in a time of persecution, formed a problem that could not be set aside."*

- Henry M. Gwatkin