

DEEP IN SCRIPTURE

Verses & Notes May 3, 2006

The Beatitudes I

Matthew 4:23 – 5:12

- 23: And he went about all Galilee,
teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom
and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.
- 24: So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick,
those afflicted with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, and paralytics,
and he healed them.
- 25: And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decap'olis and Jerusalem and Judea
and from beyond the Jordan.
- 1: Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain,
and when he sat down his disciples came to him.
- 2: And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:
- 3: "Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 4: "Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted.
- 5: "Blessed are the meek,
for they shall inherit the earth.
- 6: "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst
for righteousness,
for they shall be satisfied.
- 7: "Blessed are the merciful,
for they shall obtain mercy.
- 8: "Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they shall see God.
- 9: "Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called sons of God.
- 10: "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 11: "Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you
and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.
- 12: Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven,
for so men persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Discussion Notes:

Background:

23: *And he went about all Galilee,*

*teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom
and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.*

24: *So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick,*

*those afflicted with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, and paralytics,
and he healed them.*

25: *And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decap'olis and Jerusalem and Judea
and from beyond the Jordan.*

1: *Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain,*

and when he sat down his disciples came to him.

2: *And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:*

- Jesus has initiated his public ministry w/ baptism & temptation.
- He has recruited his first disciples.
- Now he begins, essentially, what will be the end: he makes himself known.
- A grand summary of His ministry includes basically Four Stages:
 - Stage 1:
 - *Teaching / preaching in their synagogues:*
 - *the gospel of the kingdom*
 - *Healing:*
 - *Every disease and infirmity*
 - *Among the people*
 - As a result, Stage 2:
 - *His fame spread throughout all Syria*
 - *They brought him all the sick:*
 - *Those afflicted with various diseases and pains*
 - *Demoniacs, epileptics, and paralytics*
 - *And how did he respond?*
 - *He healed them.*
 - And as a result of this, Stage 3:
 - *Great crowds followed him*
 - *From Galilee & the Decapolis & Jerusalem & Judea*
 - *And from beyond the Jordan.*
 - This all led to Stage 4: Each phrase has significance
 - *Seeing the crowds*
 - *He went up on the mountain*
 - *What is the significance of “the” mountain?*
 - *And when he sat down*
 - *His disciples came to him.*
 - *And he opened his mouth*
 - *And taught them, saying:*

The Sermon:

- 5:3 through 7:27: One large sermon?
 - 7:28-29 imply that all this was one large sermon:

“And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.”

- Key central theme: 5:48 . . .
“You, therefore, must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”
- 5:3-12 . . . the New Decalogue.
 - Not replacing the Old / Mosaic Decalogue (5:17f)
 - But rather a fulfillment / a maturing