

Matthew: The Life & Teaching of Jesus the Messiah

Lakewood Presbyterian Church

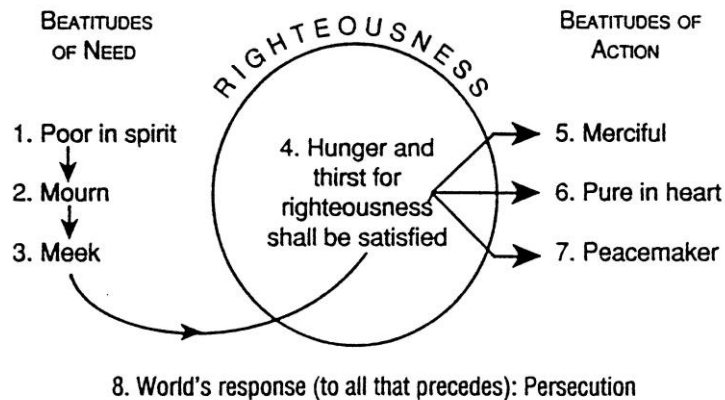
Key Idea: *Because God has graciously redeemed his people from the penalty of sin, they respond with sympathy and kindness to those suffering from the consequences of sin. Mercy begets mercy.*

Lesson 16
Matt. 5:7
The Beatitudes: The Merciful
(2-8-26)

THE PROGRESSION OF THOUGHT IN THE BEATITUDES

The Beatitudes are intimately related to one another and give a progression of thought. The first three beatitudes describe a disciple's confession of spiritual needs, whereas the fourth shows the resultant hunger of that need. The latter four beatitudes then set forth a disciple's active response to the promise that his hunger and thirst for righteousness will be satisfied, whereas the last beatitude describes the unsaved world's response to him. We might diagram this relationship as follows:

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE BEATITUDES



I. WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP OF MERCY TO THE OTHER BEATITUDES?¹

A. Consider the overall purpose of the Beatitudes:

B. The first 4 Beatitudes concern our relation to _____

With mercy there is a shift in focus from _____ to _____.

II. WHAT IS MERCY? WHO ARE THE MERCIFUL?

A. Mercy defined: _____

As distinguished from grace: _____

¹ My thanks to Terry Johnson, pastor of *Independent Presbyterian Church* in Savannah for many of these points.

B. What is *not* a characteristic of mercy?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

C. What is the relationship of mercy to justice? _____

1. Sin and crime are of a _____. Both _____

2. Within the context of just laws, mercy may be _____

3. The demands of mercy go far beyond _____ of _____ .

III. WHAT ARE THE BARRIERS TO SHOWING MERCY?

- A. Overcome the barrier of self- _____
- B. Overcome the barrier of self- _____
- C. Overcome the barrier of _____
- D. Overcome the barrier of self- _____

IV. WHAT IS THE PROMISE TO THE MERCIFUL?

A. How are the merciful blessed? _____

B. The promise is an example of the principle of _____ & _____

1. Some texts:

- Matt. 6:14-14 _____
- Matt. 18:33,35 _____
- Luke 18:10 _____

2. Forgiveness and mercy are not _____ by our acts of the same, but are the

_____ .