

Matthew: The Life & Teaching of Jesus the Messiah

Lakewood Presbyterian Church

Key Idea: *Peacemakers are known for the character of their heavenly Father.*

Lesson 18

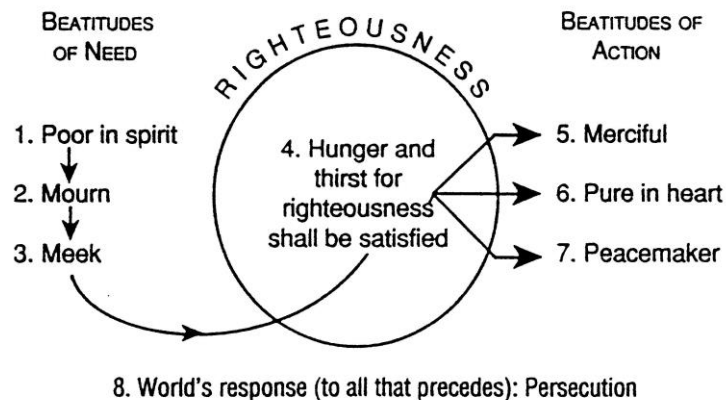
Matt. 5:9

The Beatitudes: The Peacemakers (2-22-26)

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. HOW DOES PEACEMAKING RELATE TO THE OTHER BEATITUDES?¹

- A. The internal qualities (poverty of spirit, mourning and meekness) have a profound effect on how Jesus' disciples treat others.
- B. Peacemaking is dependent upon the character qualities that precede it.

II. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A "PEACEMAKER"?

- A. Who is a peacemaker?
1. Peacemakers are the opposite of the wicked.
 2. They are called "sons of God"
 - a. By whom? God
 - b. Why? Because in peacemaking, they bring the image of God.(see Hebrews 13:20; Isaiah 9:6-7; Eph. 2:17; Luke 2:14; Acts 10:36, Col. 1:19-22).

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

Applications: _____

3. Consider some descriptors of Christ's disciples (I Peter 3:11; Heb. 12:14; Romans 12:18)

4. Note that the blessing goes not to the peace _____ but to the peace _____.

B. Peacemaking is *not* _____.

1. The peace advocated by Jesus is within a framework of j _____ and t _____
not at the e _____ of either.

a. Consider Col. 1:19-22: _____

b. Consider Roman s 3:26: _____

2. What does appeasement look like?

a. Who preaches appeasement?

(1) F _____

(2) S _____

(3) E _____

b. Who hires an appeaser? _____

c. What is the message of appeasement? _____

Applications: _____

C. Peacemaking is only possible when we f _____ peace in C _____.

1. Reconciliation to God is the first o _____ of b _____

2. Our reconciliation to God may still result in a _____ from o _____.

III. HOW IS PEACE TO BE PROMOTED?

A. One makes peace by being at peace with o _____.

1. There is no c _____ on peacemaking or 12 s _____ p _____

2. Until one's heart is at peace, we will _____

a. The primary problem for every troubled soul is a _____ from God.

b. There is p _____ and r _____ for those in Christ.

Some texts: Romans 5:1; 8:1; Phil. 4:6-7; John 14:27; 16:33

3. Peace with God does away with the self-a _____ that b _____ us from becoming peacemakers.

B. We make peace by k _____ the p _____.

1. A peacemaker first refrain from m _____ t _____.

2. We preserve peace by promoting a _____ (I Cor. 1:10)

3. We preserve peace by practicing f _____ with one another (Eph. 4:1-3; I Cor. 13:7)

C. We make peace by pursuing r _____.

1. Since God's peacemaking c _____ him a great deal, ours probably will too.

2. One of Jesus' last actions before going to the cross, was to pray to the Father for the u _____ of His p _____.