BLESSED BLESSEDNESS BLESSING BLESS

These words are rooted in 2 basic words from the original Greek
1) Eulogeo – to speak well of- to 'praise'
2) Makarios – to pronounce 'happy, blessed'.

Matthew 5:1-2

'And when He saw the multitudes, He went up on The mountain; and after He sat down, His disciples came to Him. and opening His mouth, He began to teach them

saying...'

Let's imagine the scenario!

Blessed (Happy) are the 'poor in spirit', for theirs is the 'Kingdom of Heaven'= This first 'beatitude' can be

Interpreted a number of ways for the 'believer'.

- We are poor, He has all Riches.
- We are small, He is Great
- We are nothing apart from Him, He is All in All!
- 2 Cor.8: 9. –
- What are we promised for this 'poverty of spirit'
- A citizenship in the Kingdom of Heaven.

'Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.' This doesn't speak of the 'lost' grieving their 'dead.'

Jesus is speaking of the need for His disciples to 'grieve,' 'have godly sorrow' and 'sadness of heart' for their 'sins and the sins of the world!'

God's promise to us is that we will be comforted!

Sadly not so for those who refuse God's Love.

2 Cor. 7: 10 – says; 'for the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance that is without regret, leading to salvation; but the sorrow of the world produces death.'

Blessed are the Meek/ Gentle, for they shall inherit the earth

Sadly, today 'meekness' or 'gentleness' (which is bound together in humility) is often looked upon as 'weakness' or 'feebleness'.

God knows differently:

In His eyes 'meekness' 'gentleness' along with kindness, has all of Gods authority and power working alongside the person/disciple who is living in meekness/gentleness. Eph.4:2.

Gods promise to the 'meek'- they shall inherit the earth. Future tense!

Blessed are those who 'hunger and thirst for righteousness' for they shall be satisfied.

We clearly see that Jesus is not talking about 'physical food and drink' but is looking for the 'spiritual hunger and thirst' in our lives, for what!? clearly **'Righteousness' a Christ-like life!**

Why?

Because He wants us to live a 'Satisfied and fulfilled' life in Christ. Matthew 6:33 Psalm 42:2 Blessed are the Merciful, for they shall receive Mercy.

How can we define mercy? – many ways.

Perhaps 'kindness' 'compassion' 'benevolence' and definitely 'the forgiving of a debt owed' so forgiveness lays at the heart of mercy.

But what of the 'mercy of man' compared to the 'mercy of God' Put simply – the 'mercy of man' can and will be 'flawed' e.g. But 'Gods mercy' is shown with Perfect forgiveness and love with no record of wrong kept. Read Matthew.18:21-35

Blessed are the 'pure in heart, for they shall see God'

We may well ask what does Christ mean when He says the **'pure in heart' shall see God!!**

The disciples knew from the Torah, 'the heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked who can know it. Jer.17:9 It could only be Christ in us, that we could possibly manifest and stand before God with a pure heart.
Then we shall experience the promise of seeing God, when we all get to Heaven.

Blessed are the 'Peacemakers, for they shall be called 'sons of God'

Who does God call the 'true **Peacemakers** on earth' which He would call the '**sons and daughters of God'**

I believe we can find the answer in this scripture 2 Cor.5:18-19.

We are truly Gods own 'Peacemakers' as we seek to 'reconcile' the 'lost' (friends, family or foes) to God who gave Himself for all. Then we will truly be Happy to be called a son/daughter of God Blessed are those who have been Persecuted for the sake of 'righteousness' for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Man's 'righteousness' will not allow him entry into the Kingdom of Heaven. Isaiah 64:6 and Ezekiel 33:12-13

But all and any **'righteous acts/deeds' done 'in Christ' that we are 'persecuted for,' q**ualifies and confirms our future place in the Kingdom of Heaven. Finally then- our last Beatitude! carrying on in the theme of **'our Persecution** as believers.'

Jesus says - 'Blessed (Happy) are you, when men casts insults, and persecute you and say all manner of evil against you falsely on account of me.

These 2 last Beatitudes have with them 'tremendous power' to 'convict' sin and the sinner of their 'evil ways.'

So, when we are ever under a 'spirit of persecution and mockery'

Do what Jesus said we must do in verse 12 - 'Rejoice and be glad, (why) for your reward in Heaven is (minimal, average, no!) is GREAT, for so the prophets were persecuted who were before you. Amen