



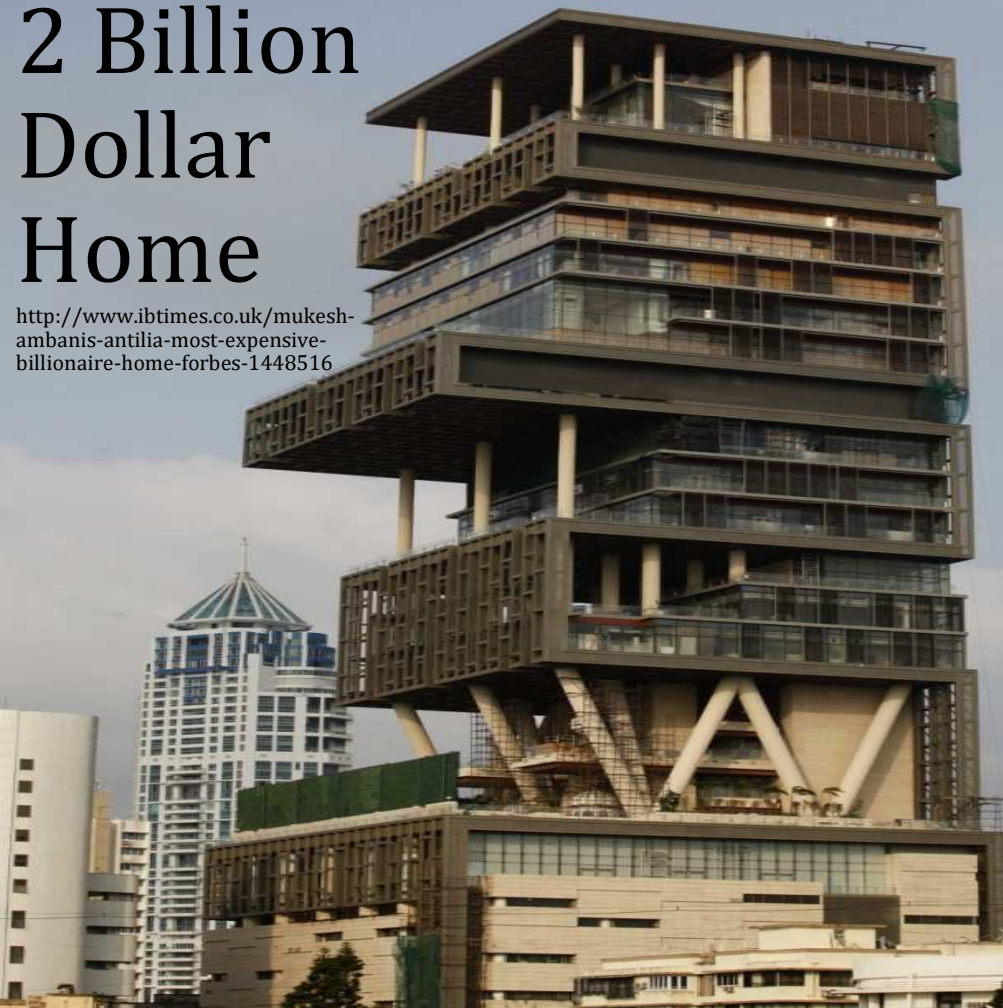
BLESSED ARE...

MATTHEW 5

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE BLESSED?

2 Billion Dollar Home

<http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/mukesh-ambanis-antilia-most-expensive-billionaire-home-forbes-1448516>



1952 Ferrari 250 GTO: \$34.65 million

<http://www.cnbc.com/id/101914056>



Graff Pink: 46 Million Dollar Bling



Sotheby's

BLESSED ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT...

- The poor have needs they cannot meet on their own
- Our Spiritual Poverty
- BUT GOD!
- Never forget: we are redeemed by Grace alone
- Beware the lure of the modern day Pharisee!
- The Promised Kingdom
 - Heaven to come!
 - Theirs IS the Kingdom of Heaven—Present Tense!
 - Heaven on Earth Through YOU!

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO MOURN...

- Promise of Comfort for those who Grieve –not found here
- Sin's Devastation
 - Personal cost
 - Cost to Christ
 - Cost to others
- The broken-hearted cries of the repentant find comfort
- Promise of Comfort for those whom mourn their Sin
 - Will find forgiveness
 - Will find avenues to make Restitution
 - Will find the strength to forgive others
 - Will find opportunities to share the comfort we have received

BLESSED ARE THE GENTLE...

- Gentleness of spirit—proper understanding of who you are

BLESSED ARE THE GENTLE...

“You come of the Lord Adam and the Lady Eve, and that is both honour enough to raise the head of the poorest beggar, and shame enough to bow the shoulders of the greatest emperor on earth. Be content.” C.S. Lewis, Prince Caspian

BLESSED ARE THE GENTLE...

- Gentleness of spirit—proper understanding of who you are
- Gentleness born from our Need
- The poverty of our soul is the great equalizer
- The Promised Earth

“Aim at heaven and you will get earth thrown in. Aim at earth and you will get neither.” C.S. Lewis

- Strong try to possess the earth but instead the earth possesses them
- The gentle know who they are and thus are free to enjoy and possess the earth

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO HUNGER AND THIRST AFTER RIGHTEOUSNESS...

- We Need new clothes!
- Desperate to be changed
- His Righteousness must follow
 - Right relationship
 - Right attitudes
 - Righteous works towards the world around you
- The Promised filling
 - We have no power to do any of these things on our own
 - Christ has offered us his righteousness to wear instead
 - Day by day we find ourselves better reflecting his righteousness

CONCLUSION

- Admittedly poor in Spirit
- Grieved by our sin-caused need
- Accepting of who and what we truly are
- Desperate to be Transformed
- Truly Blessed
 - Promise of Heaven in the future and the present
 - Promise of Comfort from the hurts of Sin
 - Promise of Possession of the earth without being possessed by it
 - Promise of the Filling of righteous for those who seek it