



SERMON OF THE KINGDOM

- No other single sermon defines:
 - The character of disciples
 - The attitudes of the heart
 - The relationships good/bad
 - The commitment to life in Jesus

SOME BACKGROUND

- Jesus shares this more than once
 - See Luke 6:20ff
- Importance of the message
- Miracles of 4:23-35 promo!//
- Gathering of common folk

SO, IT BEGINS...

- Blessed makarios
 - Not what you feel, but what God thinks of you Blessed! Stott
 - Privilege of His people 1 grøup
 - Response to "religion" of the day

BLESSED

- Heart righteousness, being...(48)
- And Jesus starts with: the poor?
 - These had only God as a refuge
 - Left no one out! Everyone is this!
 - The only place to start...

POOR?

- What is "poor in spirit?"
 - The up-side down kingdom!
 - Destitute publicans, harlots, rejects
 - Nothing to offer, no claim to make
 - All they could do was look to God...

- Isa 66:2
- Ps 34:18; 51:17
- Prov 22:4
- **2Chron 34:27**
- Isa 57:15; 66:2
- ▶ James 4:6-10

FOR THEIRS IS

- Not a thing earned, bought
- Present tense -not "going to be"
- A gift from the person/work JC
- All else might be denied, not this!
- So, what is it He gives?

KINGDOM

- Of God = of Heaven (Mt 9:23ff)
 - What is this? OT & NT many times!
 - For now "rule and reign of God"
 - Beyond politics or social status...
 - "all authority..."Matt 28:18

KINGDOM

- What is this Kingdom?
- If we are "given it" where is it?
- Vs 10 brackets this thought...
- All one group...
- Submission and humility...start!

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POOR IN SPIRIT:

- Opposite of rage, anger, sin
- Frees me to love Him
- No defense, proving, recognition
- Heals me of acts and words
- Allows me to live in His presence