

Seeing Christ's Redemptive Work for Now Sunday, September 19, 2021

- IX. Jesus explains this New Kingdom Life through the Beatitudes!
- A. He says, “You have the attributes of God when...”
 - 1. You admit you are empty without God
 - 2. You are broken because of your emptiness
 - 3. You have yourself under restraint and submission to God
 - 4. When you are desperate for God over everything
 - 5. You express mercy to the world
 - 6. When your commitment to The Lord is pure and undivided
 - 7. You WORK for The peace of God in your world
 - 8. When you are targeted for doing what is right
 - B. Then notice that Jesus begins to transition from speaking about our personal change and transformation!

Matthew 5:13-16

13 “You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. 14 “You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. 15 No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it

gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

C. Jesus seems to be saying,

1. “You and your life are the preserving agents of this world! You put a good taste in people’s mouth for The Lord!”
2. Then He says, “Your life will be a light that shines so others can find their way to God!”

X. You and I are the “Agents of Restoration” that God uses to bring His message to Man!

II Corinthians 5:16-20

16 So we have stopped evaluating others from a human point of view. At one time we thought of Christ merely from a human point of view. How differently we know him now! 17 This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! 18 And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. 19 For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people’s sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. 20 So we are Christ’s ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, “Come back to God!”

A. We are called to do three (3) things:
Proclaim...Demonstrate...and Participate!

1. Proclaim: After His resurrection Jesus said...

Luke 24:44-49

44 Then he said, “When I was with you before, I told you that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and

in the Psalms must be fulfilled.” 45 Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. 46 And he said, “Yes, it was written long ago that the Messiah would suffer and die and rise from the dead on the third day. 47 It was also written that this message would be proclaimed in the authority of his name to all the nations, beginning in Jerusalem: ‘There is forgiveness of sins for all who repent.’ 48 You are witnesses of all these things. 49 “And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes and fills you with power from heaven.”

2. Demonstrate:

Matthew 5:16

16 In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

3. Participate:

Galatians 2:20

20 My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

B. If we are “ministering Christ” to people, then let’s realize what we are ministering!

Luke 4:18-19 (This is a quote from Isaiah 61)

18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, 19 and that the time of the Lord’s favor has come.

1. Our message to a broken world is: Boy, do I have something worth hearing!

2. You do not have to live the way you have been living!! This is below God's designed way of life!
 3. I want you to see God as the Loving God that He really is!
 4. You can live and breathe in freedom from your past no matter what has happened!
 5. You are God's favorite!! He prefers to be with you more than anything! So much so, He was willing to live our lives and give His life to be with you!
- C. It is passed time for all of The Church to genuinely and deeply realize that we REPRESENT GOD to the world we live in!!!!

Ephesians 3:8-11

8 Though I am the least deserving of all God's people, he graciously gave me the privilege of telling the Gentiles about the endless treasures available to them in Christ. 9 I was chosen to explain to everyone this mysterious plan that God, the Creator of all things, had kept secret from the beginning. 10 God's purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. 11 This was his eternal plan, which he carried out through Christ Jesus our Lord.