



Empowering People to Change the World

The Core Values of Happiness Part 2

Steve Holt

***God can move mountains in my life
I will build up my faith with God's Holy Word
I will come alive in the power of the Holy Spirit With Jesus, nothing
will be impossible***

Jesus did not come to start a religion but a revolution.

- He came to bring a revolution of the Kingdom of God.
- Jesus came to take back the earth from Satan through His Kingdom citizens. Let me give you a definition.

Definition: “A Kingdom of God Revolution” is the governing influence of The King (Jesus) over His territory (earth), through His Citizens (us), who are expressing His culture and values, reflecting the nature of the King (heaven) into all spheres of earthly society (7 mountains).

The Sermon on the Mount is Jesus giving us His “Kingdom Manifesto.” Matthew 5:1-12

Matthew 5:1

¹ And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him.

- The first thing we notice is that Jesus goes up on a mountain. Matthew is prophetic in giving us a picture of Moses who went to a mountain. It was on a mountain, Mt. Sinai, that Moses gave the Kingdom people, the Jews, the Law.

Blaise Pascal: “All men seek happiness. This is without exception. Whatever different means they employ, they all tend to this end. The cause of some going to war, and of others avoiding it, is the same desire in both, attended with different views. The will never takes the least step but to this object. This is the motive of every action of every man, even of those who hang themselves.”

- This is known as the “Beatitudes” or “blessed sayings,” from the Latin word *beatus* (blessed).

- Blessed—*Makarios*, from the root “mak” indicating long in duration. The word is an adjective suggesting extremely happy, supremely blessed.

o Jesus wants all of us supremely happy! But not a temporary happiness, a fleeting happiness, but a deep long lasting happiness. The two words for this kind of happiness is JOY and PEACE.

- Blessed! Happy! Enriched!—the 8 most important values of the Kingdom of God.

o These represent a revelation of the character and conduct of the King.

o Living the kingdom life should be blessed, happy, joyful.

o One preacher used to call them the “Happy Attitudes.”

o If we will live the Kingdom Life, we will “be” blessed, “be” happy. o This is a call to the “wholehearted life.”

- Culture has values. The Kingdom of God is no different. Jesus is about to share what the values of the Kingdom of God are.
- A value is a belief or conviction of a people. It is a standard or ideal that regulates conduct or policy.
- Values also relate to one’s personal philosophy of life.
- Values determine our attitudes, behavior and view of life.
- If we want to learn how live in the culture of the Kingdom, we must learn the values of the Kingdom.
- Jesus is articulating His values right at the beginning of His ministry.
- Jesus is radical! Right here at the beginning of His teaching, He wants to establish a new way of thinking, a new way of living life. That is why He keeps speaking of “repent for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

8 Great Values of the Kingdom of God

Matthew 5:3

³***"Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.***

1st Kingdom Value: "poor in spirit"

Need for God; poverty of your own spirit

- This is the keynote of the Kingdom—you are blessed if you know you need God. It all starts here. If you do not get this, forget the rest!!
- It strikes at the heart of self-sufficiency, the ego, the American Way.
- Be poor enough to receive Jesus into your life, and everything from heaven can be yours!
- Poor in your spirit leads to being rich in God, in the Holy Spirit. You cannot experience the power of the Spirit until you are poor in your own spirit. We hate this, don't we?

o We want to be in control and then we complain that we do not see more of God at work in our life.

o Who is going to be in control in your life? Your spirit or the Holy Spirit?

o His ways are not our ways; His thoughts are not our thoughts.

Matthew 5:4

⁴***Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.***

2nd Kingdom Value: Sorrow bearing

- Doesn't this seem like a contradiction? Happiness and mourning?
- The values of the Kingdom are always Thesis and Anti-thesis.

- Luther translated this word as “sorrow bearing.” It means you care; you care about the things God cares about—people, our nation, our city, the Church and you begin to realize most people do not have the Kingdom. Most people have not experienced the Kingdom, and God gives you this love for people.
- I remember my mom and dad weeping over the way African Americans were treated. You quit condemning and judging the world, and begin to love God’s image in every person, and that brings with it sorrow and pain. We bear the sorrow of the children that are trafficked in the sex trade.

o It does not embitter you, it breaks your heart. o It does not bring judgement but love.
o Our comfort is the Comforter.

- You mourn for what God mourns for—you are no longer a part of the values, culture and outlook of this world. You hurt in your heart for the caricature of life, the shell of a life, that most people are living.
- These first two values embody the living blend of Kingdom character, Kingdom values: the quality of being poor enough in your heart to know you need God and receive the Kingdom, and then the quality of love and sensitivity to vicariously mourn for those who do not have it.
- It is loving God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength and your neighbor as yourself.
- Hunger for the Kingdom and sadness for those who do not have the Kingdom: a certainty within oneself and a sensitivity for others.
 - o You ache for the death of the unborn.
 - o You ache for your friends going through a divorce.
 - o You stay up late by the bedside of your sick friend.
- God comes and comforts such people. He comforts them with His Spirit. For He knows how to comfort because He understands their

mourning, for they mourn with the heart of God.

Matthew 5:5

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

3rd Kingdom Value: Renouncing All Rights

- Christ described Himself as “meek.”
- The meek are not the weak. They are actually the most strong. They have no rights of their own but live for Christ.
- When you give up all your rights, you get the whole earth! When the world strips you of what you felt was yours, there is a time to surrender. You walk away and do not fight.
- What God gives He can also take away. It is all His. We are His bondservants.
- *Non cupidi vindicare*—an early church phrase that meant that we “leave all our rights to God.”
- It is this kind of people—who is not a part of the world’s value system—that inherit the earth. God gives them power over the earth because they did not want it.
 - o Those who possess it by violence and manipulation will lose it.
 - o Those who love God and do not need the power are the one’s God’s trust with it!
 - o God wants His kingdom on the earth through His citizens upon the earth!
- It is the powerless that God gives power.

For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. ²⁷ But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; ²⁸ and the base things of the world and the

things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, 1 Corinthians 1:26

“For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Matthew 5:6

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

4th Kingdom Value: Passionate for Right Relationships

- When Mary heard Rachel’s greeting and the John leaped in her womb, she proclaimed, “He has filled the hungry with good things.”
- Not only does a Kingdom of God disciple renounce his or her rights, but he also renounces his own righteousness.

- Paul understood this—the “Philippians 3 God Chaser”

¹² Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. ¹³ Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, ¹⁴ I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.!

- Stay hungry! Stay focused on Christ!