Bryan Station Baptist Church
INDEPENDENT MISSIONARY
THE PIONEER BAPTIST
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"Preaching The Same Truth We Preached Before Kentucky Was A State"

THE SECOND BEATITUDE

By : C. D. Cole

"Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted." Matthew 5:4.

The first two beatitudes give us the feeling of a child of God when he is occupied with himself: He is poor in spirit and mourning over his sins. They give us the result of the inward and backward look: not of the upward and forward look at Christ. The believer has no confidence in himself, but rejoices in Christ. The beatitudes give us the characteristics of the saints; they are the birth marks of the saved.

The first two beatitudes are paired. The first is a benediction upon those who are filled with a sense of unworthiness: the second gives us the emotional experience of those who are poor in spirit. The poor in spirit are the mourners of the second beatitude. The first gives us the saint's estimate of himself; the second the feeling that follows upon that estimate. We have the first exemplified in Isaiah's "I am a man of unclean lips"; the second in his contemporaneous wait: "Woe is me, for I am undone."

ALL MOURNERS ARE NOT BLESSED

"Blessed are they that mourn." Are all mourners blessed? If so, then all men are blessed for everybody is a mourner at one time or another. It is nothing but shallow sentimentalism that teaches that all mourners are blessed and will be comforted. There are many mourners who are not blessed and will never know the comfort of the second beatitude. This second beatitude does not support the doctrine of universal bliss. One may mourn over blighted hopes, frustrated plans, financial reverses, and death of loved ones, and yet not be blessed of God. There are many mourners who will never be comforted.

What kind of mourning is this? There are three kinds of mourning referred to in the Bible. There is a natural mourning resulting from present afflictions, Such as loss of health, or wealth, or a dear relative. Then there is sinful mourning, which is inordinate grief, refusing to be comforted, or hopeless remorse such as Judas had. And there is also gracious or godly sorrow, of which the Holy Spirit is the Author. The mourning of our text is a gracious and spiritual mourning over sin. Grace in the soul not only makes one poor in spirit; it also makes sin a thing of grief

Spiritual mourning is not the result of being caught in sin by man, but the result of realizing we are sinners before God. The spiritual mourner says "Against Thee, and Thee only have I sinned and done this evil in thy sight." We must distinguish between sin against God and crime against man. All are sinners but all are not criminals. Crime is against society; sin is against God. Society punishes for crime; only God punishes sin. A man may even deny there is any God and human law will not punish him. All are not in jail, but all are in the prison house of sin. All are not facing indictment by the grand jury, but all out of Christ are exposed to the wrath of God. Crime against man is bad; sin against God is worse. All sin is not crime, but all crime is also sin against God.

Spiritual mourning is a part of the process of conversion. It is mourning that

goes with conviction for sin and repentence unto life. The Holy Spirit is the Author of this mourning. He plows and harrows the heart before He plants the gospel seed that brings forth faith and joy in Christ. When the Spirit works there is a stripping before clothing, wounding before healing, abasing before exalting, and grief before gladness. The Holy Spirit makes the sinner despair of himself before He gives him the good hope in Christ. In an experience of grace there is a bad feeling before a good feeling. The bad feeling is the result of a sight of sin, the good feeling is the result of a sight of Him. In dealing with the woman at the well Jesus made her realize she was a sinner, before He revealed Himself as her Saviour. Christ cannot be precious unless and until sin is bitter.

I am not insisting on any steriotyped experience in conversion. I am not saying that there must be a definitely defined depth of sorrow or any protracted season of grief. I am not preaching sorrow or mourning as a price for salvation. What I do insist upon is that repentence for sin must go before faith in Christ. There must be godly sorrow for sin before there can be forgiveness of sin. There must be a real sense of sin before salvation can even be desired. Many will admit they are sinners who have never mourned the fact--they have never really taken it to heart, it has never caused them any great concern. The woman of Luke 7 washed the Saviours feet with her tears because she realized she had been forgiven much. Have you and I ever shed any tears over our sins? How can there be real rejoicing in Christ unless there has been real sorrow for sin. How can Christ be precious as Saviour unless sin has been bitter? How can one see Christ as Redeemer unless he has seen himself as lost so undone? When the prodigal returned to his fathers house, he said, "I have sinned against heaven and in thy sight and am no more worthy to be called thy son." Have we ever had such a sense of our unworthiness? Why did the publican smite his breast and say, "God be merciful to me a sinner." It was because he felt the plague of his own heart. How was it with the thirty thousand on the day of Pentecost? They were pricked in their hearts and cried out, "What must we do?" How was it with the jailor? With fear and trembling he asked, "What must I do to be saved?"

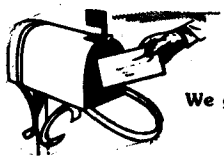
In an experience of grace the only thing that can comfort is a sight of Jesus Christ putting away sin by the sacrifice of himself. The only hope of any spirit convicted sinner is that Christ bare his sins in His own body on the cross. To have our guilty fears quieted by any other means is a dangerous delusion. "As sorrowful, yet alway rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things." II Corinthians 6:10.

Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted." Our Text is not to be limited to the initial experience of conviction and contrition. The verb denotes a present and continuous experience. It is not "blessed are they that have mourned," But "blessed are they that mourn." Here is another birthmark of the saved. Those in the kingdom are mourners. I have mourned over my sins more since I became a Christian than before. The believer has much to mourn over, such as coldness of heart, listlessness in prayer, neglect of the word, and failure to give Christ chief place in our lives.

Conversion is an experience the real believer never gets over; he continues as he began. Every element in conversion is sustained and deepened with the passing days. Was there realization of sin when we were saved? Then it is still there and as we grow in grace we make deeper discoveries of the sinful nature that is in us and cry with pain. "I know that in me, that is in my flesh, dwelleth no good thing." Was there hatred of sin in our conversion? Then this hatred continues and is intensified. Was there sorrow for sin? Then this sorrow is still felt and we so often cry "O wretched man that I am." Was there faith in Christ when we were saved? then this faith has remained and is more intelligent. Was there satisfaction with Christ and what He paid for our salvation? Then we are still satisfied with Him and have no desire to look to any other source for salvation.

WE WILL NOT ALWAYS
HAVE TO MOURN

"Blessed are the mourners: for they shall be comforted." When we awake in His likeness, then we shall be satisfied and sorrow shall be gone forever. When we are finally comformed to the image of Christ and are safely settled and housed in the New Jerusalem, God shall wipe all our tears away, and there will be no mourning anymore.



We get letters.

WILMINGTON BAPTIST TEMPLE SENDING OUT FIRST MISSIONARY!

Dear Pastor and Church:

Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ by whom I love and serve with you in the gospel ministry.

God has richly blessed Wilmington Baptist Temple this past year. We are now meeting in our new church house, souls have been saved, there is a pioneer spirit in the congregation and we have the privilege of sending out our first missionary!

Brother Tom Ross and his wife, Tammy, have proven themselves committed, sound in the faith, and are ready for the mission field. Brother Ross has been saved for five years. He was called to the ministry four years ago and has had intense preparation for the task which awaits him.

Brother Ross is a man of the Word, zealous, separated from worldliness, a soul winner, balanced, loves our Lord, and maintains a testimony of being a faithful soldier of Jesus Christ.

The Rosses feel impressed to go to the Xenia-Beavercreek area which is east of Dayton, Ohio, to start a mission work under the authority of Wilmington Baptist Temple (which was a mission out of Bryan Station Baptist Church). To my knowledge, there is not one sound Baptist church in this purposed area.

Pastor Al Gormley highly recommends this man, as do I, for your support. He would appreciate your prayers as he begins his life's calling. God bless you, brother, for your consideration and for your labors in the Master's vineyard.

You may contact Brother Ross at the following address or phone number: Tom Ross, 414 North South Street, Wilmington, Ohio 45177, (513)382-5473.

Your servant in Christ,
Pastor Dan Ferrell
Wilmington Baptist Temple
P. O. Box 245
Wilmington, OH 45177

NEW PROVIDENCE BAPTIST CHURCH IS NOW SELF-SUPPORTING!

Johnny Redmon
New Providence Baptist Church
1305 Clintonville Road
Route 4
Paris, KY 40361

Dear Brethren:

It is our belief that repentance and remission of sin should be preached in His name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. (Our Jerusalem is the community around the New Providence Baptist Church.) We also believe that we should start at home first, and be a witness for Jesus to the uttermost parts of the earth, as Acts 1:8 says! We also believe that the Lord's churches should be missionary churches, in efforts and endeavors as well as a sign hanging in front of the building. We also believe as long as a church is not self-supporting, and is being supported by other churches, she should not be using the tithes and offerings to send out other missionaries.

Our church met on Wednesday, November 6 and decided that it was time to take another step by faith, and begin mission work on our own. We realize that we of ourselves can do nothing, but with the help of the Lord we can do all things. We want to help send missionaries out and see missions started, and new testament churches organized.

So at this time we want to thank you all for your faithful support and prayers. WE THANK GOD FOR EACH OF YOU AND YOUR PASTOR! We covet your prayers as we take this step by faith and do this labor of love.

We ask that you still remember us in your prayers. We have faith that is we will step out by faith, and do God's will, that the Lord will bless, and take care of all our needs!

Your's by His amazing grace,
Johnny Redmon and members of the New Providence Baptist Church

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Dear Brother Gormley:

My name is Henry Whitaker and I'm a member of Wilmington Baptist Temple. Chances are you still can't place me, but my wife and I came to the Bible Conference on a Tuesday and Brother Tom Ross introduced you to me. My wife and I were only able to hear two messages but we both agreed that it was worth the trip down.

I work on a grocery stocking crew (3rd shift) at the same store as Bro. Ross. I had just got off work and was sitting down at my desk to study when I began thinking of your conference and what a blessing it was to me so I thought that I would write to you and thank you for having a conference that we could come to. The preaching that we heard was what we needed, that of preaching about sin as what it is, wicked, and preaching about our Saviour as he really is, righteous!

I'm a young preacher of the gospel and for me to hear an abundance of preaching and to meet experienced preachers and pastors, is an encouragement to my soul.

God bless you all at Bryan Station for your love and prayers and thanks be to our God for your 200th anniversary.

With brotherly love,
Henry Whitaker
Wilmington, Ohio

Dear Brother Al and Sister Doris:

On behalf of the family, I wanted to restate how much we appreciated the conference. Wanda said she had never experienced anything like that in her life. The people of Bryan Station were so friendly and the meals were delicious. The spiritual feast of singing and the preaching was food for our souls.

If feasible, I wish you would express to the church our thanks for everything, and to you and the church I appreciated the opportunity to preach at the conference. It certainly was a source of great help for me. I PRAISE THE LORD!

We were royally treated at the Chipley's. They made us feel at home and they attended to our every need and more. The joy was ours to stay in their home and we trust if the opportunity affords us to come to future conferences they will permit us to stay with them.

Give our regards to the saints at Bryan Station.

Yours by His grace,
Pastor Elton Dunbar
Concord Baptist Church
Leesville, SC

1985 MISSION BIBLE CONFERENCE CASSETTE TAPES

1. Seeking and Saving - Harold Harvey
2. He Must Increase and I Must Decrease - Tony Herald
3. The Minister and His Trials - Elton Dunbar
4. Jesus Walks on the Water - Coy Cox
5. Joy of the World - Lonnie Bennett
6. The Power of the Word of God - Lee Hammell
7. Who, What, Why of Preaching - Garner ~~Smith~~
8. Believing a Lie - Bill DeRossitt
9. God's Word and Its Publishers - LeRoy Pack
10. The Great Commission - Parvin Hall
11. The Church That God Blesses - Robert Ginn
12. Immaturity - Luther Rogers
13. It's Not Too Late to Serve the Lord - George Kelly
14. Herodias, The Head Hunter - Dan Ferrell

The cassette tapes of the 1985 Mission Bible Conference are now available. Fourteen message tapes and two music tapes are $12. Please send your orders to the Bryan Station Baptist Church, 3175 Briar Hill Road, Lexington, Kentucky 40516, ATTN: Tape Ministry.