

THE BEATITUDES:
JESUS' RADICAL
BLESSINGS FOR THE
OPPRESSED 🤘

What did Jesus really mean on that hill? It's more liberation than law. Let's break it down.

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Who was Jesus talking to?

- Not the rich, powerful, or priests.
- But the poor, sick, oppressed, colonized Jews under Roman rule.
- A brown-skinned radical Jew preaching love & justice on a hillside.



This was a sermon for the outcasts, not the empire.

The Beatitudes = 8 blessings from Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1-12)

Each one starts with “Blessed are...” (Greek: makarios = deeply honored, spiritually favored)

💡 Think: Affirmations of dignity for those society tries to erase.

 The King James Version (1611) was translated under a monarchy, not a movement.

 It filtered radical messages into polite obedience.

 Words like “meek” or “poor in spirit” often sound weak or submissive.

But Jesus was saying something far more powerful.

1. “Blessed are the poor in spirit...”



KJV: sounds like spiritual burnout.



Actual meaning: Blessed are those crushed by life — they are spiritually rich in God’s eyes.

2. “Blessed are those who mourn...”



Not just funerals.



The brokenhearted, the grieving, the traumatized. Your pain is seen. You are divinely held.

3. “Blessed are the meek...”

➔ KJV: sounds like “docile.”

✓ Greek praus = strong but gentle, those who don’t seek dominance.

💪 Think: those who resist empire without becoming it.

4. “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness...”

➔ Not just personal piety.

✓ Righteousness = justice.

🔥 Blessed are the justice-seekers, activists, truth-tellers, protestors.

5. “Blessed are the merciful..”

➡ Not “soft.”

✓ The ones who show radical compassion, even when it’s hard.

♥ Mercy is power under control — and chosen kindness.

6. “Blessed are the pure in heart..”

➡ KJV: sounds like sexual purity.

🚫 Nah.

✓ Undivided heart. Those who walk with integrity and clarity — not just externally, but internally aligned.

7. “Blessed are the peacemakers...”



Not just “keeping the peace.”



Peacemakers disrupt injustice to make true peace possible.



Think: decolonizers, bridge-builders, peace warriors.

8. “Blessed are those persecuted for righteousness’ sake...”



The marginalized. The banned books. The trans folks told they’re “too much.”



If you’re hated for living in your truth, you’re in sacred company.

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 Jesus' blessings were never meant to be gatekept.

- These words uplift Black and Indigenous communities.
- They affirm queer, trans, neurodivergent, and disabled lives.
- They honor grief, resistance, and hope in every culture.

 These are liberation words, not condemnation.

Here's your remix:

Blessed are the brokenhearted, the weary, the queer, the peacemakers, the justice warriors, the ones who keep going even when they're told to stop — for theirs is the kin-dom of love.



The Sermon on the Mount is a revolution, not a rulebook. Let's live it.

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