



Sunday, October 31, 2010:
Blessed are Those Who Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness

Scripture: Revelation 21:1-8; Matthew 5:6

Speaker: David Robinson

Sermon Notes:

1. For Matthew, Jesus is the new Moses giving His people a standard to live by with both covenant warnings and promises.
2. To be truly blessed is to be satisfied as God is satisfied.
3. If we don't hunger and thirst for righteousness, our claim to know God is brought into question.
4. Biblically, righteousness is to be conformed to God's norms.
5. Prayer is the expression of the believer's hunger and thirst for righteousness, and it is also the means by which God satisfies that appetite.
6. The standard for righteousness is not based on ourselves, but on Christ.
7. Material things don't satisfy the spiritual hunger for righteousness.
8. As we lose our appetite for righteousness by sloth, our hearts become hard.
9. The disciplines of prayer and hearing God's Word soften our hearts, and develop a spiritual appetite for righteousness.
10. If you persevere in the duty of prayer, it will once again become sweet.
11. Jesus asks His Children to daily ask their heavenly Father for bread.
12. We're longing for a new heaven and earth where righteousness dwells.
13. We long for the day when the earth will be full of the knowledge of God as the waters cover the sea.
14. The calling and mission of the church is grounded in this hope.

Application Questions:

1. How do fallen, alienated human beings become satisfied in God according to the beatitudes?
2. How does Philippians 3:8-14 portray hungering and thirsting for righteousness?
3. Why are the disciplines of hearing God's word and prayer so essential?
4. Do I need to regain the discipline of prayer in my life?
5. Besides overt sinful behaviour, what are some subtle distractions which destroy my hunger for God?
6. What things need to be surrendered and removed from your life?
7. How can I develop a renewed spiritual appetite?
8. What is the hope set forth in Psalm 23:6? Explain the importance of hope in the Christian life.
9. Discuss this statement: Hope has two beautiful daughters: anger and courage -- anger at the way things are and courage to change things.