

**The Sermon on the Mount – Lesson 3**  
**Matthew 5:8-10**  
By Russ Earl

Thesis: I want to show the character of a Christian described in the beatitudes.

Intro:

1. We have seen some characteristics of Christians described in Matthew 5, today we will look at three more.

I. Blessed (v.8)

A. “are the pure in heart”

1. Purity of heart is freedom from evil desires and purposes (**Phil 4:8**).
2. The pure in heart are selfless and seek to do the will of God and not their own.

B. “for they shall see God”

1. Only those who put God first (“the pure in heart”) will see God.
2. We become pure in the waters of baptism, we remain pure in heart through true, obedient faithfulness to God and His will (**Eph 6:5-6**).

II. Blessed (v.9)

A. “are the peacemakers”

1. The term includes all who make peace between men, whether as individuals or as communities. It includes even those who truly endeavor to make peace though they may not be successful (**Rom 12:18**).
2. We should not be creators of strife but creators and promoters of peace (**Titus 1:7b**)

B. “for they shall be called sons of God”

1. God’s purpose was and is to secure men in eternal peace (**Lk 19:10**).
2. We too as Christians should do the same, thus those who do so are indeed “sons of God”.

III. “Persecuted for righteousness’ sake...” (**1 Peter 4:12-16**)

A. It is a blessing to be mistreated for righteousness

1. We know that the faithful are not strangers to hardships (**2 Tim 3:12**).
2. The Lord will deliver us from our persecutors (**2 Tim 3:10-11**).

B. “theirs is the Kingdom of God” (**1 Peter 1:6-7**)

1. They are members of the kingdom of God because they are willing to suffer for righteousness.
2. They don’t back down when they are pressured.
  - a. Example of giving in when pressured (Peter denying Christ-**Matt 26:69-74**).
  - b. When suffering for righteousness we must not turn to evil, but remain strong in faith.

Concl:

1. Are you “pure in heart”? Are you a peacemaker? When persecuted is it for righteousness’ sake?

2. These are characteristics and attributes ALL Christians should have, do you?

3. Full Invitation