

The Blessed Life
The Rewards
Matthew 5:3-12

The Rewards - 2

Inherit the Earth, Be Satisfied, Receive Mercy

How God Blesses Us



- Hebrews 11:6: And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.
- Our faith is not just about the existence of God, but in knowing that He rewards

Rejoice and be glad,
for your **reward** is great in heaven

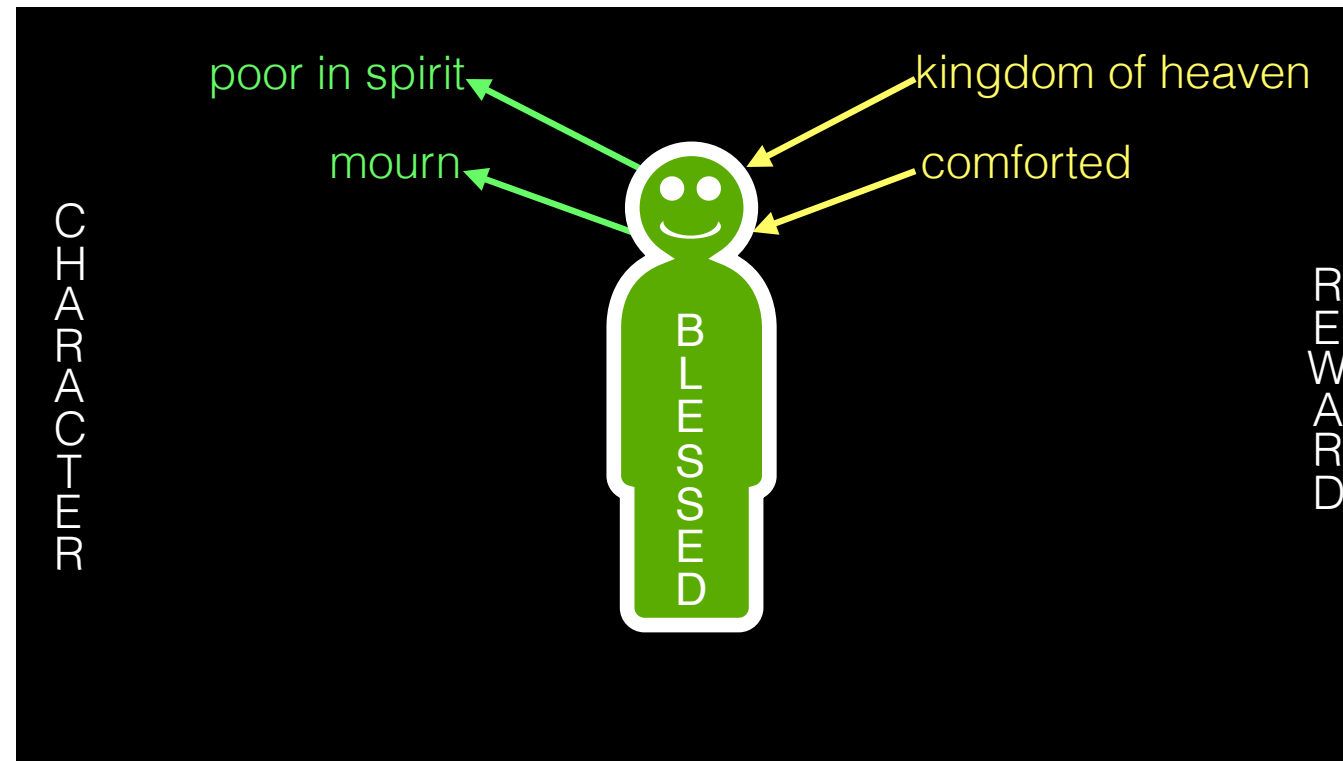
Matthew 5:12



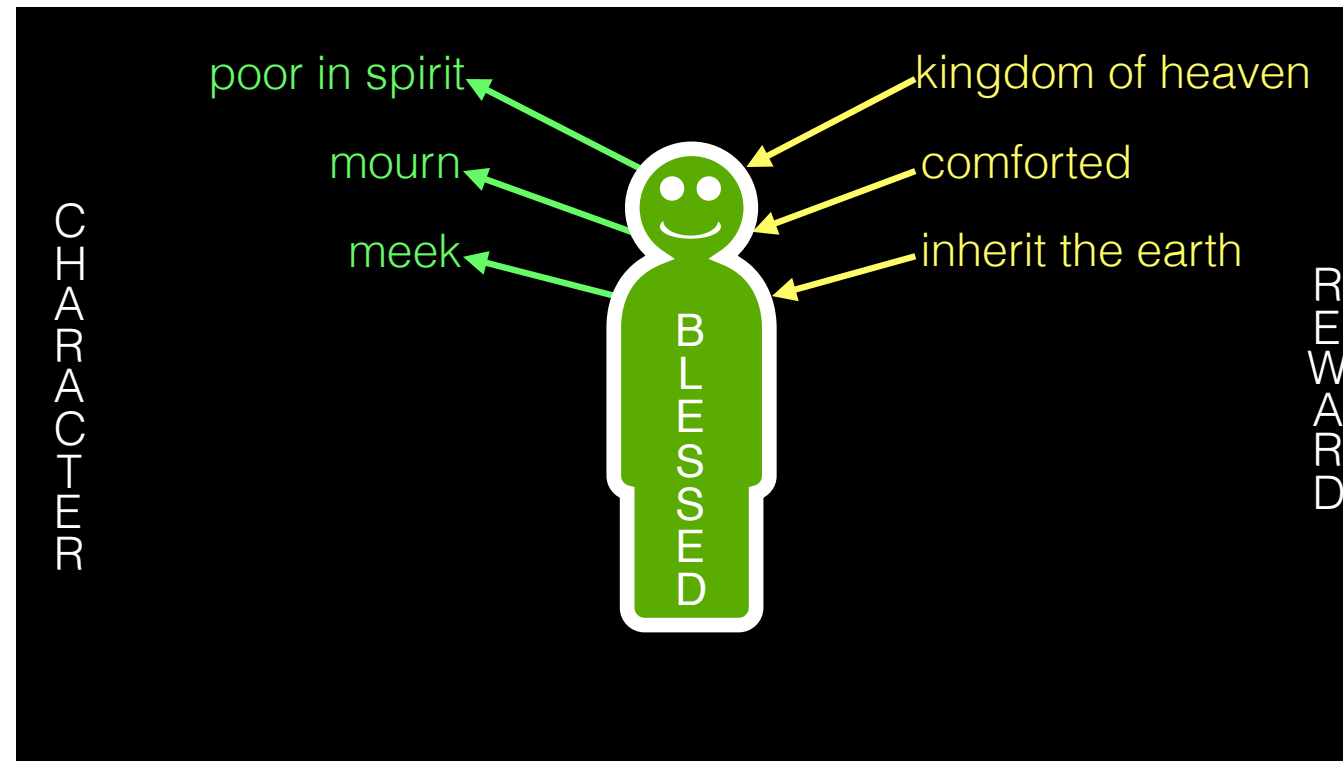
He **rewards** those
who seek him.

Hebrews 11:6

- The rewards are spiritual in nature, not physical.
- The rewards are not only in the future (heaven), but now.



- poor in spirit - theirs is the kingdom of heaven
- mourn - comforted

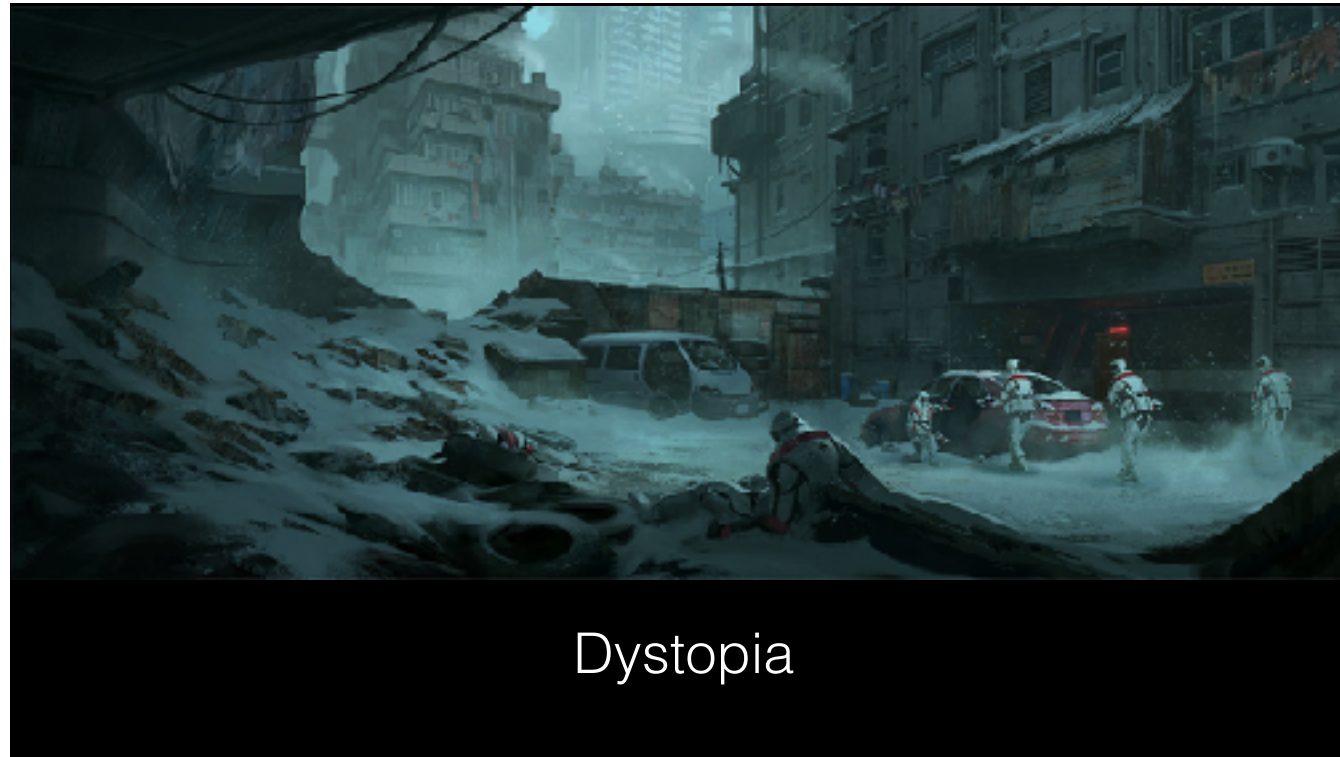


- meek --> inherit the earth
-



Utopia

- Utopia
 - Looks forward to a future that is ideal: peace, prosperity, etc.
 - Thomas More (Casandra!)



Dystopia

- Dystopia
 - Looks to the future as being very bad: suffering, poverty
- The meek shall inherit the earth seems to be quoted frequently in such movies.
 - Often bad guys misquoting

inherit the earth



- majority view: physical (rule over the planet); future (after wicked judged?)
- Our Rewards are all SPIRITUAL.
- We receive them now, not just in the future

Psalms 37...



Fret not yourself because of evildoers

Psalm 37:1


- David — evil doers are prospering
 - prosperous yet stingy (7, 16, 35; 21)
 - plotting evil against righteous to kill (7, 12, 14, 32)



Fret not yourself because of evildoers
Psalm 37:1

Trust in Jehovah (3, 5)
Righteousness & Justice (6)
Wait for Jehovah (7, 34)
Be Still (7)
Jehovah will Act (5)

- How is righteous to cope?
 - No fretting, anger or envy (1, 8)
 - Trust in Jehovah
 - Walk in righteousness and be faithful (3-7; 16, 21, 26, 27, 30, 31, 34)
 - Wait ... on Jehovah (7, 34)
 - Be still before Jehovah (7)
 - (I want to do something, must do something)
 - Jehovah will act (5)



“inherit the earth” (KJV)

- ➡ wait for Jehovah (9)
- ➡ meek (11)
- ➡ blessed by Jehovah (22)
- ➡ righteous (29)
- ➡ wait & keep His way (34)

- Jehovah will act (5)
 - repeatedly says “inherit the land” (earth)
 - Who will inherit the land?
 - those who wait (9)
 - the meek (11)
 - blessed by Jehovah (22)
 - the righteous (29)
 - wait, keep His ways (34)
 - Evildoers: “cut off” (from the land?) (9. 22, 28, 34, 38)

A large person's leg and foot, wearing a dark suit and black shoes, are shown stepping on a small person in a dark suit. The small person is standing on their hands, looking up at the large foot. The background is white.

“inherit the earth” (KJV)

- ➡ wait for Jehovah (9)
- ➡ meek (11)
- ➡ blessed by Jehovah (22)
- ➡ righteous (29)
- ➡ wait & keep His way (34)


- Jesus essentially quotes this verse for the beatitude.
- What does it mean that the meek will inherit the land (earth)?
 - Abraham promised land.
 - David conquered land



“inherit the earth” (KJV)

- ➡ wait for Jehovah (9)
- ➡ meek (11)
- ➡ blessed by Jehovah (22)
- ➡ righteous (29)
- ➡ wait & keep His way (34)

- But not the peace and blessings... mainly due to sins of forefathers, current unrighteousness
 - Abundant peace (11)
 - Heritage forever (18)
 - Not put to shame (19)
 - Abundance (even in famine) (19)

A large person's leg and foot, wearing a dark suit and black shoes, are shown stepping over a small person in a dark suit. The small person is standing on a white background, looking up at the large foot. The large person's leg is positioned on the left side of the frame, and the foot is about to step over the small person.

“inherit the earth” (KJV)

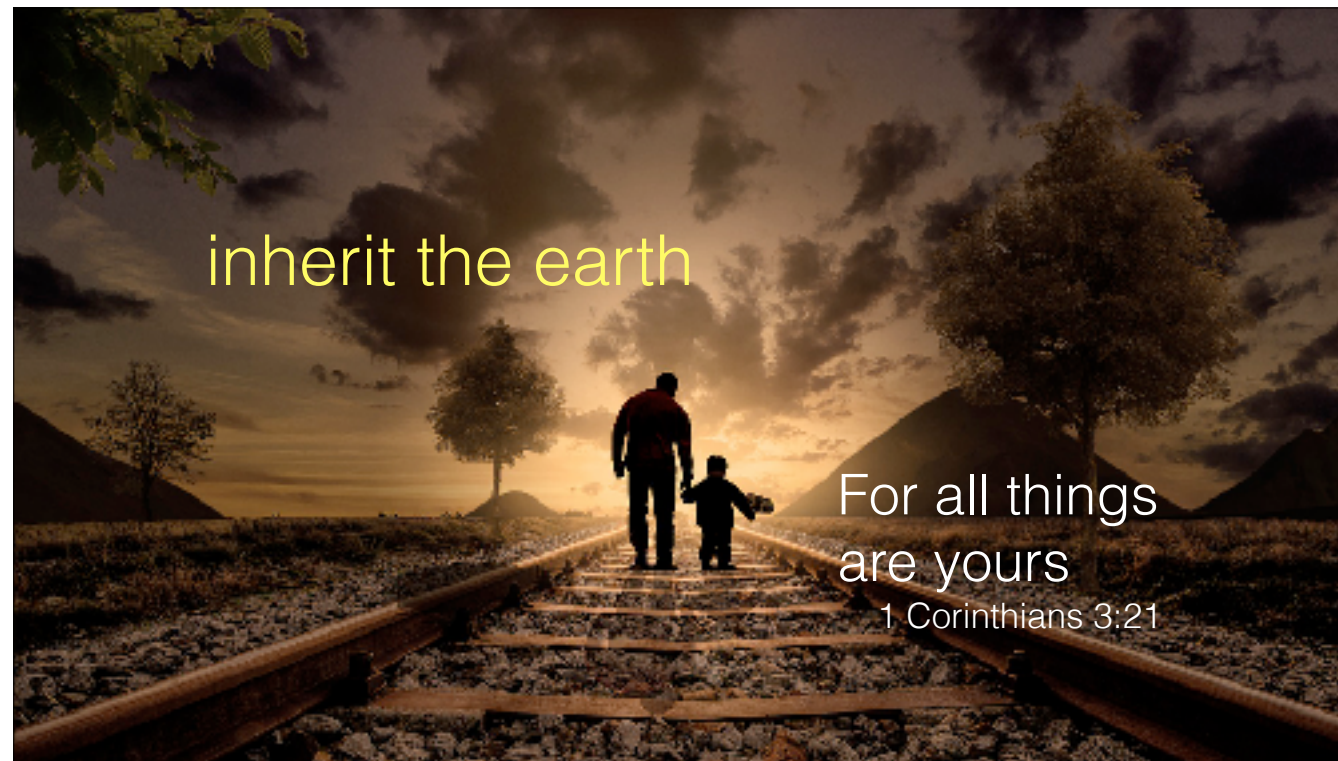
- ➡ wait for Jehovah (9)
- ➡ meek (11)
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- Existing in the land vs. live, enjoy, blessed as Jehovah intended.
- Fullest expression of this is seen in fulfillment of Jesus!
 - Spiritually: peace, inheritance, abundance.
 - We are in an approved (blessed), covenant relationship with our God.
- Should be enjoying to the fullest all the blessings that Jehovah has promised us.



2 Corinthians 6:10: as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, **yet possessing everything.**

Spiritually, we are rich. Richer than we could ever be on this earth!



inherit the earth

For all things
are yours

1 Corinthians 3:21

1 Corinthians 3:21-23: So let no one boast in men. For all things are yours, whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future—**all are yours**, and you are Christ's, and Christ is God's.

Everything is ours, because we are in Christ!

Father to older son: Luke 15:31: And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.



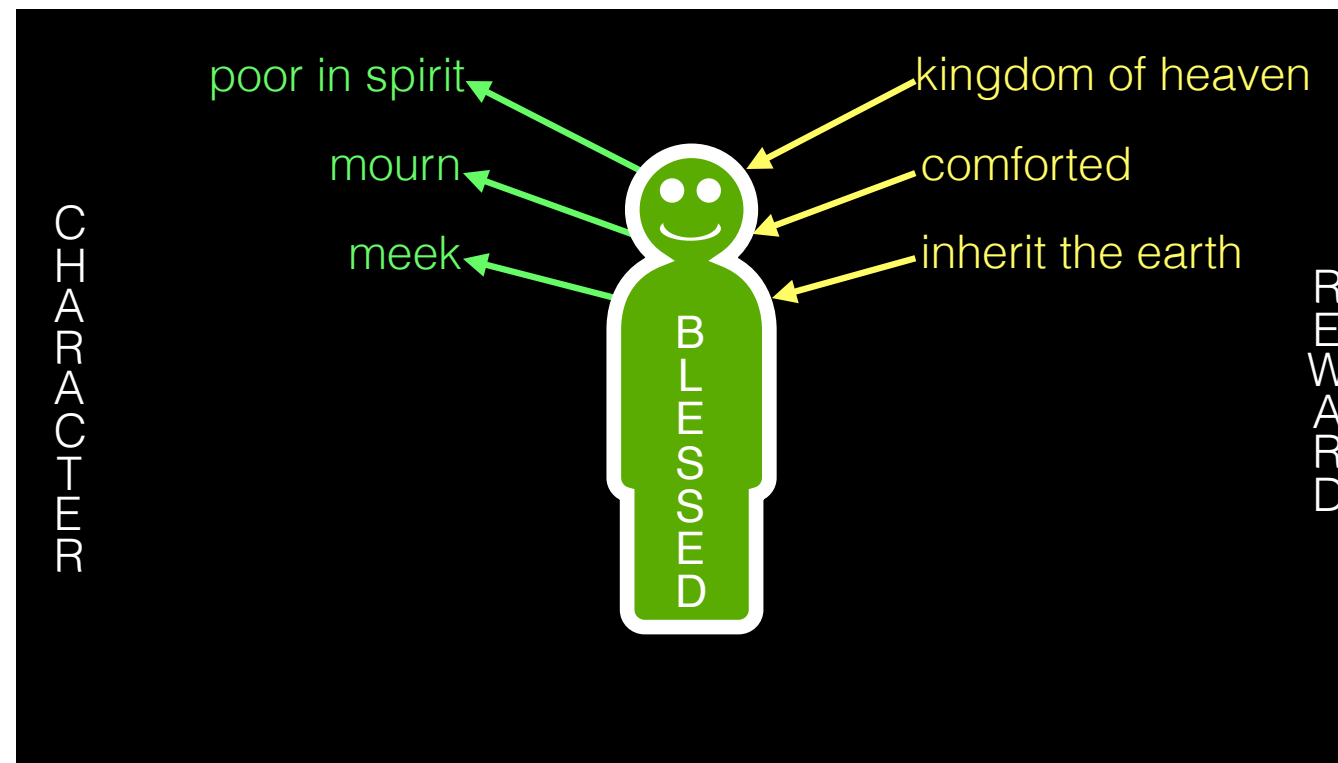
Philippians 4:11-13: Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.



In contentment

No matter what may befall me in this life, I know that I have a relationship with God and enjoy all the benefits of his promises.

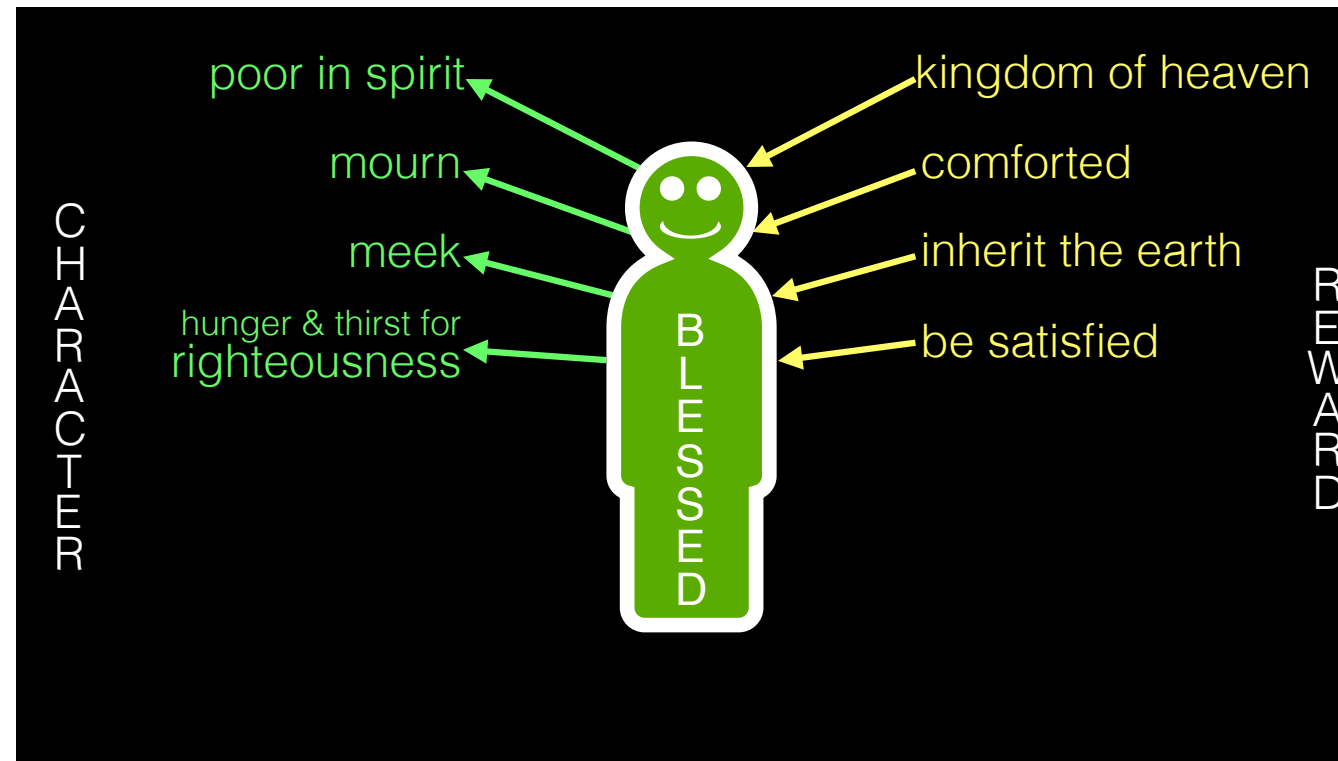
The meek is not striving for his own control, rather he knows that Jehovah will act! Wait, trust, be righteous, walk



meek --> inherit the earth

Remember: spiritual rewards, both now and later!

Our Rewards are all SPIRITUAL. We receive them now, not just in the future



Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness --> Be Satisfied

be satisfied



- complete satisfaction (Vincent): “A very strong and graphic word,
- originally applied to the feeding and fattening of animals in a stall.
- It is manifestly appropriate here as expressing the complete satisfaction of spiritual hunger and thirst.
- Hence Wycliffe’s rendering, fulfilled, is strictly true to the original.

When the poor and needy
seek water, and there is
none, and their tongue is
parched with thirst, I
Jehovah will answer them;
I the God of Israel will not
forsake them. I will open
rivers on the bare
heights, and fountains
in the midst of the
valleys.

be satisfied



Isaiah 41:17-18

Isaiah 41:17-20: When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue is parched with thirst, I the LORD will answer them; I the God of Israel will not forsake them. I will open rivers on the bare heights, and fountains in the midst of the valleys. I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water. I will put in the wilderness the cedar, the acacia, the myrtle, and the olive. I will set in the desert the cypress, the plane and the pine together, that they may see and know, may consider and understand together, that the hand of the LORD has done this, the Holy One of Israel has created it.

When the poor and needy
seek water, and there is
none, and their tongue is
parched with thirst, I
Jehovah will answer them;
I the God of Israel will not
forsake them. I will open
rivers on the bare
heights, and fountains
in the midst of the
valleys.

be satisfied



Isaiah 41:17-18

- When we thirst... God answers!
- Abundantly & magnificently
- Not a little bit, not just sufficient: rivers and fountains; pools and springs
- enough for the moment; enough for future

but whoever drinks of the
water that I will give him
will never be thirsty
again. The water that I
will give him will become
in him a spring of water
welling up to eternal life.”

John 4:14

be satisfied



Christ fills:

John 4:13-14: Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

Jesus said to them, “I
am the bread of life;
whoever comes to me
shall not hunger, and
whoever believes in
me shall never thirst.

John 6:35

be satisfied



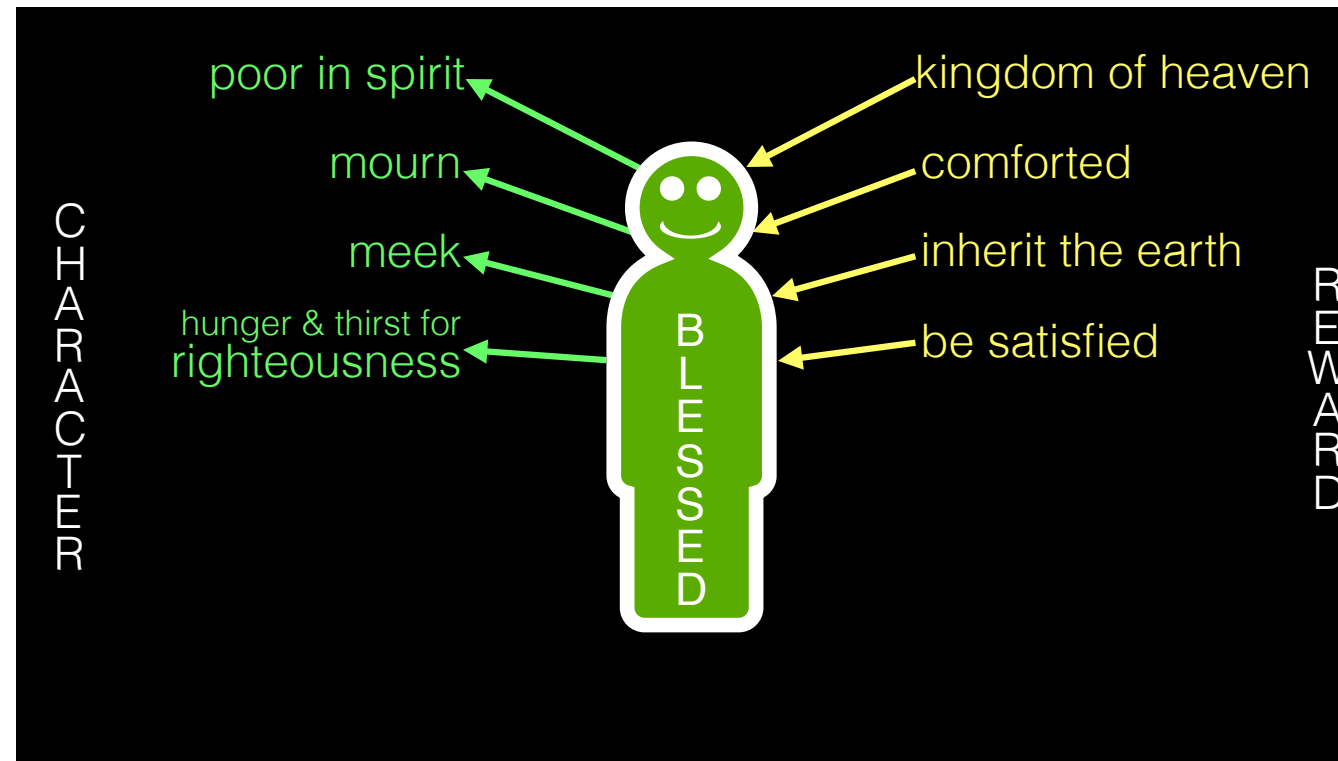
John 6:35: Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.



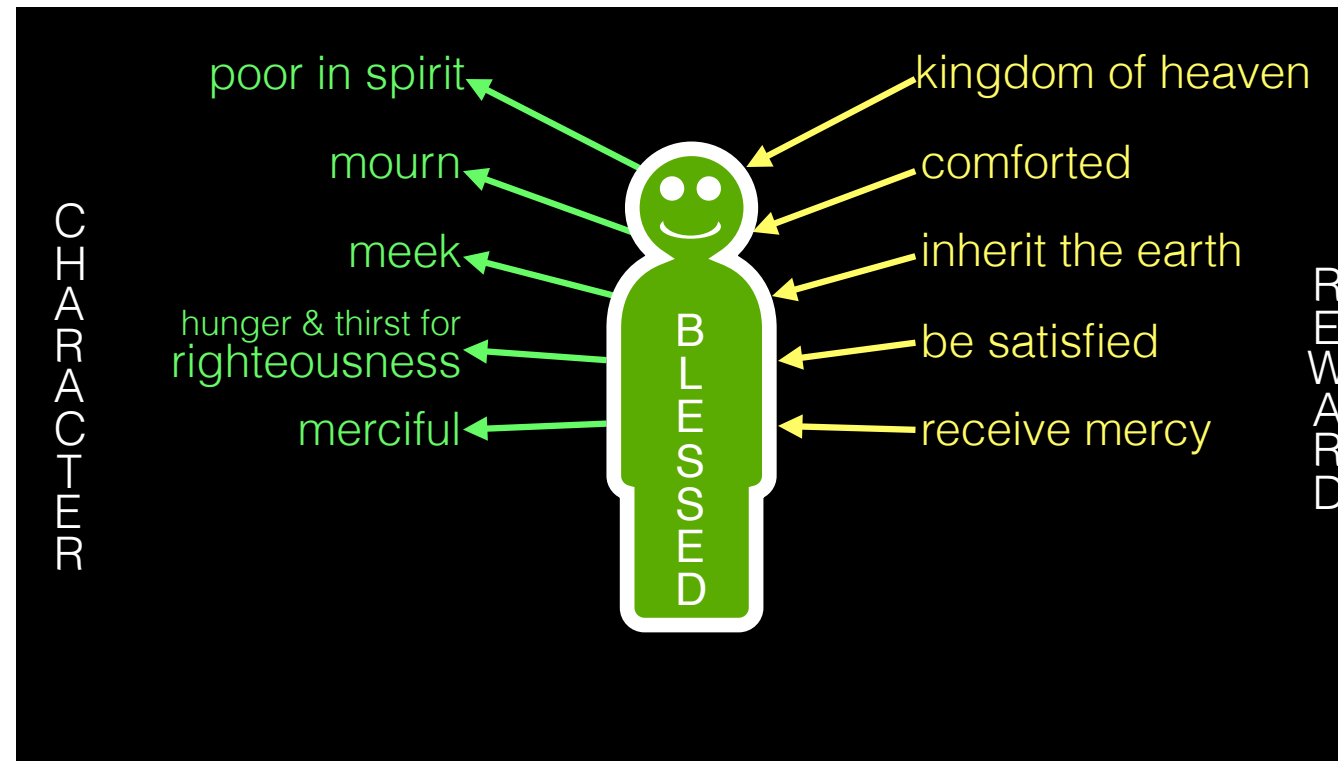
- Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness will be blessed with righteousness in ways that they cannot begin to imagine.
- Righteousness enough to satisfy both now and for eternity.
- We are filled by Christ himself, as
 - Paul wrote "by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous" (Romans 5:19).



- Darby: When prodigal son was hungry, he was willing to eat the pods that the swine ate; when he was starving he turned to his father, who provided a fatted calf.
- Many demonstrate they are seeking righteousness: churches, religions all over this city. They'll eat up anything.
- Only our Father in Heaven can provide real food that satisfies.
- I have a responsibility to teach the lost about true righteousness!



Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness --> Be Satisfied

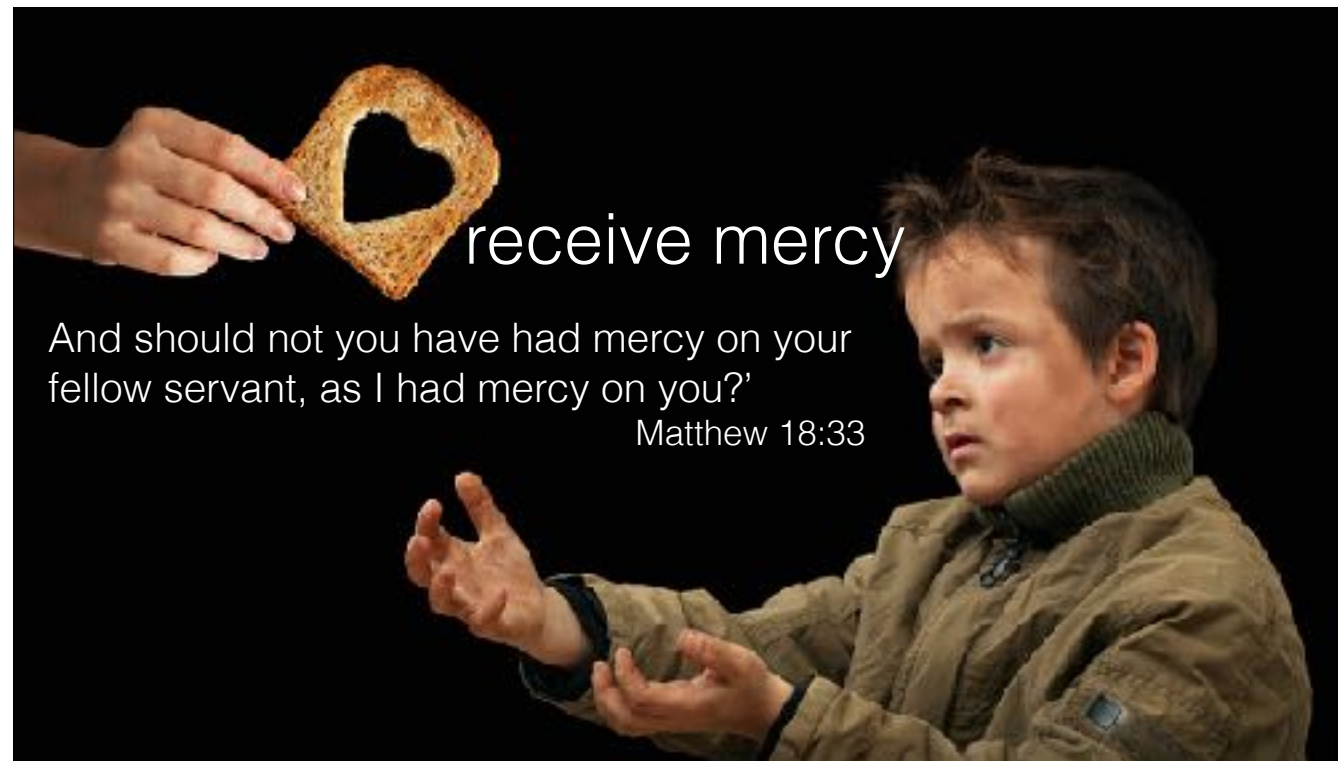


Merciful --> Receive Mercy

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Matthew 18:32-35: Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."



- Received mercy from Father without comparison
- Not deserved or earned
- Not expected
- Rich!

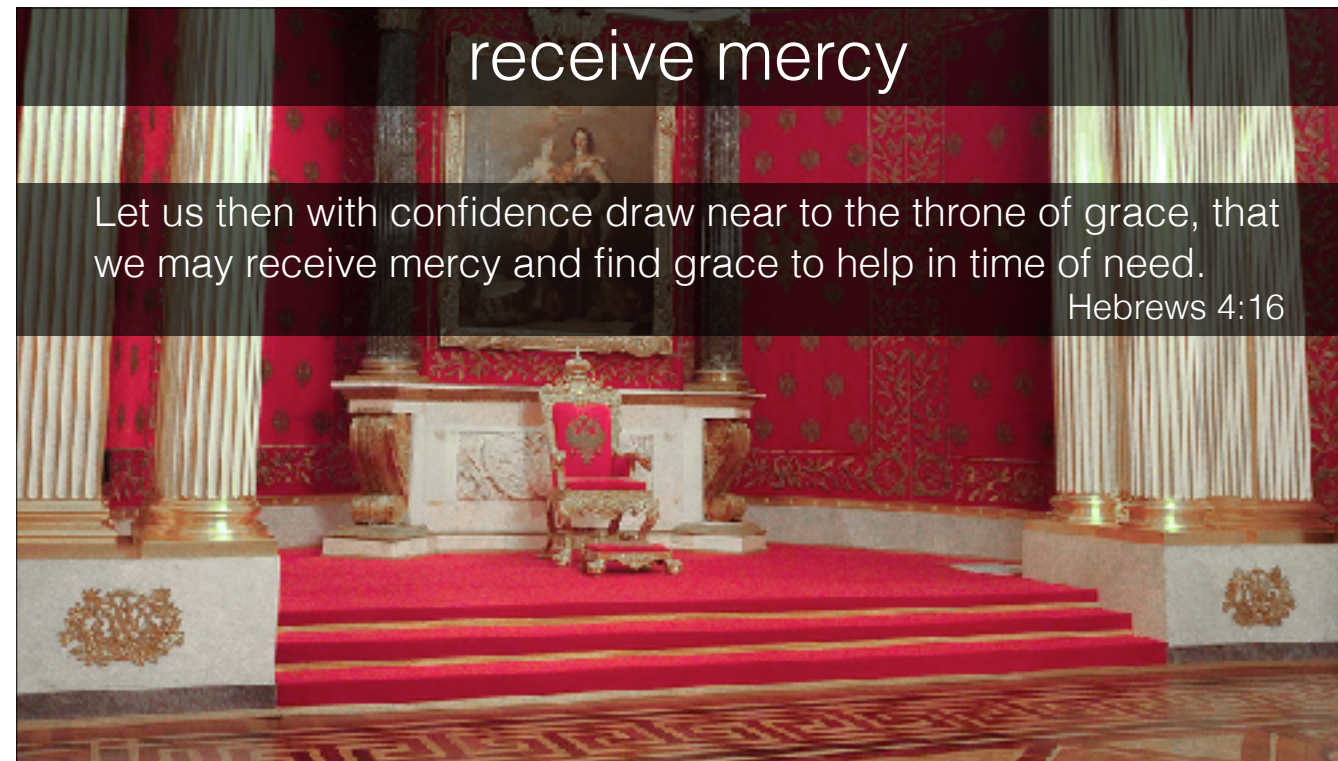


receive mercy

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:16

- Hebrews 4:16: Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.
- Great comfort when struggling with sin, temptation, weakness
 - Sympathy, mercy, grace



receive mercy

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:16

- Jesus knows just how difficult it is to overcome temptation, better than anyone, always did it.
 - He struggled further and harder than anyone (Lewis)
 - Desires to help us triumph over temptation
 - God to Cain: Genesis 4:7: If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it.”

receive mercy

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:16



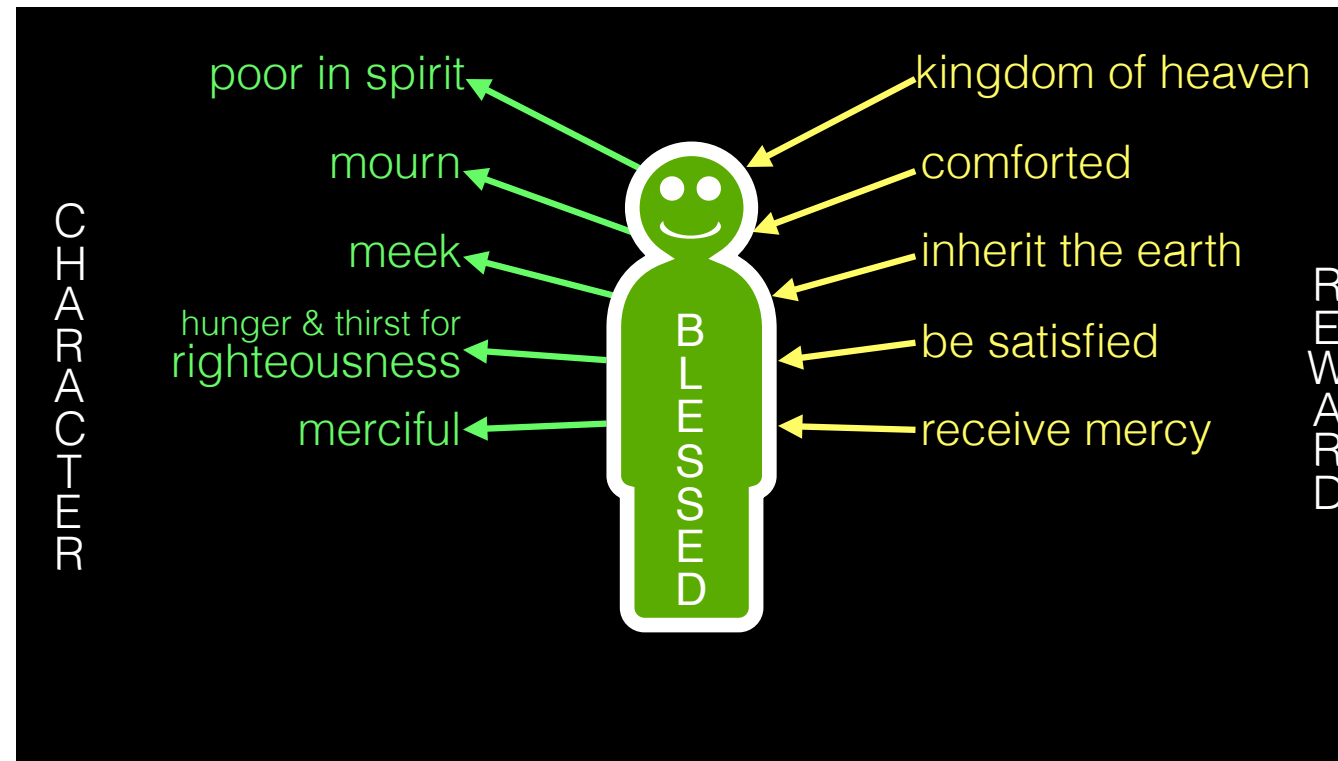
- Come boldly, not cringing.
 - He doesn't use his success to brow beat us.
 - Question why we cannot do what he did.



- Since He is so merciful to me, should I not be merciful to brother who is sinning, tempted, weak?
 - Will I look down on such a brother with judgmental self-righteousness?
 - Too often real answer is YES.
 - Will I help him as much as I can to be righteous and holy?
 - Am I merciful as my father is merciful to me?



Psalm 23:6: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.



Merciful --> Receive Mercy

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**We implore you on
behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.**

2 Corinthians 5:20

Let all that you do be done in love.

1 Corinthians 16:14



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- text

The Rewards - 2

Matthew 5:3-12

Synopsis: For each of the character traits, our Lord also explains the corresponding reward from God. Our Father rewards those who seek him and here we find wonderful reasons for making that choice in our lives. In this lesson we discuss “inherit the earth”; “satisfied”; and “receive mercy.”

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“Let all that you do be done with love.”