Matthew Series Lesson #023 February 16, 2014

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I. The Setting: 5:1, 2

II. The Character and Calling of those who inherit the kingdom, 5:3–5:16

# Matt. 5:9, "Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God."

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#### The Beatitudes are not an action plan!

The Beatitudes describe character qualities of mature disciples prepared for the future rule of Jesus in the promised Messianic Kingdom. Isa. 53:5, "But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed."

Isa. 57:19, "'I create the fruit of the lips: Peace, peace to him who is far off and to him who is near,' Says the LORD, 'And I will heal him.'"

# Three key interpretive questions

- With whom is peace made?
- By what methods is peace made?
- By what or whose standards is peace determined?

Matt. 10:34, "Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword.

Matt. 10:35, "For I have come to 'set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-inlaw against her mother-in-law';

Matt. 10:36, "and 'a man's enemies will be those of his own household."

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Col. 1:20, "and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross."

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εἰρηνοποιέω eirēnopoieō aor act part masc sing nom to make peace Peace is inner tranquility and contentment; the opposite of fear, anxiety, worry, inner stress (Phil. 4:5, 6)

John 14:27, "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

# **Peace as a state of reconciliation with God**

Rom. 5:1, "Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ," Rom. 10:15, "And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: 'How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!'"

Eph. 6:15, "and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;" Col. 1:20, "and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross." Col. 1:20, "and by Him <u>to reconcile</u> all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross."

(apokatallassō),

aor act inf of purpose; "to reconcile completely" only here and in Eph. 2:16 Eph. 2:16, "and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity" **Reconciliation is ...** 

the work of God for man in which God undertakes to transform man's position of hostility to peace in order to make possible an actual eternal fellowship with a righteous and just God. **Reconciliation is...** 

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Reconciliation was accomplished forensically, in a legal sense, once and for all by Christ on the cross. Reconciliation applies to each believer positionally only when a person has trusted in Jesus Christ as Savior.

- 1. The human race is in a legal state of hostility toward God because of Adam's sin.
- 2. No fallen human being can change this state of hostility.
- 3. The opposite of hostility is peace, harmony.
- 4. There must be a change of status, the legal penalty must be paid.
- 5. This payment is through death, the substitutionary spiritual death of Jesus on the cross.

Eph. 2:13, "But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

Eph. 2:14, "For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation," Eph. 2:15, "having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace,

Eph. 2:16, "and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity."

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### **Peace is interpersonal harmony based on the realities of forgiveness of sin**

Rom. 14:19, "So then we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another."

2 Cor. 13:11, "Finally, brethren, farewell. Become complete. Be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you."

Heb. 12:14, "Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord." Not a peace without standards

Gal. 6:16, "And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, ..."

# **Peace is a primary characteristic of the future Messianic kingdom**

Psa. 72:7, "In His days the righteous shall flourish, And abundance of peace, Until the moon is no more." Isa. 9:6, "For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, <u>Prince of Peace</u>.

Isa. 9:7, "Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this." 2 Cor. 5:18, "Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation,

2 Cor. 5:19, "that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

2 Cor. 5:20, "Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. John 1:12, "But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:"