

INTRO – Today we hear the beatitudes – they can be BE-ATTITUDES

What our attitudes towards God and each other should BE

- The beatitudes are in both MATT and in LK (but they're different)
- MT has JC take his disciples up a mountain and He teaches them there
- LK has JC come down the mountain, to the plain, and He teaches everyone
- MT has JC say “blessed are the poor in spirit
- LK has JC say “blessed are YOU poor
 - NB – what the evangelists did when writing the Gospels is what we should do
 - We should feel free to apply what JC said and did to OUR SITUATION
 - It's not that the truth of scripture changes by how we apply it
 - It's that WE change – our lives change – and God wants to meet us where we are LUP

JER

Jerimiah was a prophet – and he had a personal relationship with God – SO SHOULD WE

Jerimiah was a man of prayer and he is frequently shown in prayer

In this reading JER shares the truth about God that he has learned – something we need to hear READ

Jerimiah had a profound personal relationship with God

“Blessed is that one who trusts in the Lord whose hope is in the Lord”

The importance of a personal relationship with God is critical for all of us

Coming to Church is great

Praying together is great

BUT WHERE ARE YOU WITH GOD

If you have a girlfriend – wife – you want to spend time with just her

The same should be true with God

And look at what Jer promises:

The man who trusts in the Lord ... fears not the heat when it comes

In the year of the drought it shows no distress but still bears fruit

(Anybody here feel the heats coming? Having a year of drought? ...)

PS1 “Blessed are they who hope in the Lord” READ IT

“Blessed the man who delights in the law of the Lord and meditates day and night”

“Whatever he does prospers”

“The Lord watches over the way of the just”

We have a choice - we can follow the Lord – or not – we can be blessed or not

God has not abandoned us – even in NSJ – JC was born for a reason – and so were you

Jesus came that we might be blessed and hope in the Lord – Like Jerimiah, why not?

This what Paul teaches in COR – our hope is in resurrected Christ –

The basic tenant of our faith remains constant – the Risen Christ READ IT

GOSPEL – READ IT

In the COR reading Paul teaches about the resurrection – and our faith in it

Without it our faith is in vain – and we're still in sin – but JC DID die AND RISE

So we have hope

LK says “Blessed are YOU poor – the KOG is yours” - ALREADY

Together – we are redeemed because JC rose from the dead and we are bless-ed.

The resurrection is not only rooted in the person of JC, but also reaches out to us

The resurrection forms a community of faith – a family – right here and round the world

Salvation comes through forgiveness of sin and we are forgiven

Jesus rose from the dead and He wants to take us with Him – for all eternity – believe it

It's the truth