

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. **Matthew 5:1** “And seeing **the multitudes**, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him”

- a. List three of the cities or regions where those multitudes came from.
- b. Who were those that came unto him to learn on that mountain?

### Answer

- a. The previous verse answers that, they gathered from **Galilee, Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea**, and from beyond **Jordan**.
- b. His disciples (not his apostles). All those who followed him to learn of him, came up with him to the mountain, and there, he taught them.

2. When Jesus was to start his ministry, he gave the mission statement of it in **Luke 4:16-19**, saying, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to **the poor**”. Observe the recipient of his gospel message: “the poor”.

Then, in his preaching to the multitude in **Luke 6:20**, Luke recorded Jesus’ teaching, saying, “Blessed be ye **poor**: for yours is the kingdom of God”.

In both cases, his emphasis was on the poor, is it that those who are rich and wealthy with material things have no place and provision in the gospel of Christ? And what is the meaning of the word “poor” in that context?

### Answer

No, the gospel is for all men, the kings and the servants, the great and the small, the rich and the poor, the gospel is for all men.

However, the “poor” mentioned in the book of Luke was clarified by Matthew. Matthew said, “Blessed are **the poor in spirit**” (**Matthew 5:3**). That means, the poor in that context was not the materially poor, but men who are poor in spirit.

More explanation (You don't need to add this):-

The word "poor" means to be in lack. A man who is poor in spirit is one who:

- believes in his own insufficiency, and therefore **humbles himself** before God, depending not on his own righteousness but the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus.
- Believes that he is spiritually blind and sick and depends on God for sight and spiritual healing.
- Believes that his works alone is not enough to qualify him before God, and therefore puts his faith in God for his justification.

Salvation and Justification that come through the gospel of Christ are for such men. Not for men, like the religious folks, who believed they were spiritually self-sufficient (Romans 10:1-3).

3. Mention five of the nine that Jesus declared as blessed, their meaning and the blessing attached to each. **(GOLDEN)**

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**Answer:**

	Category	Meaning	Reward
1	Poor in spirit	Spiritually humble, not self-righteous	theirs is the kingdom of heaven
2	They that mourn	Repentant and grieved for their sins	they shall be comforted
3	The meek	Gentle and not easily provoked	they shall inherit the earth
4	They which hunger and thirst after righteousness	Zealous and passionate for God's will	They shall be filled
5	The merciful	Forgives others when offended	They shall obtain mercy
6	The pure in heart	Fully devoted unto God, and focus their hearts on him.	They shall see God

7	The peacemakers	Those who reconcile men to men, ensuring peace.	They shall be called the children of God
8	Persecuted for righteousness	Take their stand in righteous acts, even when persecuted	Theirs is the kingdom of heaven
9	Reviled, persecuted and falsely accused for Christ	Reproached because of Christ	great is their reward in heaven

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4. Jesus said we believers are “The Salt of the Earth”, what does that figurative statement mean?

### Answer

Jesus likened believers to salt based on the similarity in essence.

Salt is good (Luke 14:34), good for seasoning (adding taste and flavour to food). Just as salt is good for food, we believers are also good for the earth. Through our righteous deeds, we make the earth good, and without us, the earth will be a terrible place, just like Sodom and Gomorrah was.

5. Jesus said we believers are “The light of the world”, what does that figurative statement mean?

### Answer

Jesus likened believers to light based on similarity in essence.

Just as a candle gives **natural** light unto all that are in darkness in a house, we believers are called a **spiritual** light shining the light of God and his glorious gospel unto a world filled with darkness.

As light, we are meant to impact our world with our good works, that men may give glory unto our Father which is in heaven.

6. Matthew 5:20 “For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.”

Describe the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, and explain how your own righteousness exceeds their righteousness.

**Answer**

The righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees is a self-righteousness. Such righteousness is defective. It is a righteousness that is built upon the good works of a man and not on faith. They are trying to earn the righteousness by doing all that the law says. But, unfortunately, by the works of the law shall no man be justified in God’s sight.

My own righteousness is not like theirs. My righteousness is not built upon what I did, but what God did in Christ for me. And it is not even my own righteousness, but God’s righteousness inputted into me by faith in Christ. (Romans 10:3).

7. When we want to pray or come to church to worship God, and then remember that we have an unsettled matter with a brother or sister, what did Jesus teach us to do?

**Answer**

We are taught to pause the prayer or worship, and go first to reconcile with our brother, and then we can come back to continue.

This is to say, God wants us to follow peace with all men, for a man who is walking in hatred towards his neighbor is unworthy of standing before God.

8. The law says, “thou shalt not commit adultery”. How did Jesus interpret that scripture?

### **Answer**

Jesus said, adultery goes beyond physical contact. He said, even thinking lust towards another person is a sin. For a man to be thinking or imagining sex towards a woman he is not married to is a sin.

This means a believer must guard against masturbation and every form of lust of the heart. Because, God who marks sin also marks the ones that happen in the heart.

9. What do you have to say to a believer who is fond of calling the name of God, or Jesus, or the Bible to swear?

### **Answer**

Our Lord Jesus taught us that we should not swear at all. Rather, we should have a good conduct of always saying the truth. If we say Yes, people should find it to be Yes, and if we say No, it should be found as No.

10. We believers are to love our neighbor, even if the neighbor is an enemy. What is the boundary to this?

### **Answer**

We are meant to love our neighbour. By this, it means we should not pray them evil. It means we should not wish them bad. It means we should do good to them, inspite of their bad deeds.

The boundary is, we should not rely, trust or depend on our enemy. We should be wise and vigilant when relating with them. Just as David dealt wisely with Saul, so must we do.

We should love them, without copying, abetting or joining their sinful ways.