

Pastor: Jonathan Rayder

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Sermon Title: **“BLESSED ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT”**

Matthew 5:3

- The Jews could really do NOTHING without 1st getting Roman approval
- “Blessed are the Poor in Spirit” – these are people who recognized their Spiritual Poverty
- Inwardly these people are poor (in & of themselves) they have NO ability to please God (they CAN’T do ANYTHING in their own strength)
- Naturally we’re ALL wicked & sinful (we’re Spiritually Bankrupt) we ALL need help!
- “Poor” (in Greek) means “Beggar” or Pauper” ... someone who is totally destitute in their personal righteousness before a perfect & Holy God
- God’s NOT looking for us to fix our brokenness (we CAN’T)
- Jesus is teaching if you are Poor in Spirit it is actually a good thing (it’s something to delight over)
- The 1st step to receiving the help & rescue is to acknowledge our Spiritual Bankruptcy
- Our best is the MOST disgusting filth that you can possibly imagine
- The beautiful blessing that comes from this brokenness is because of Jesus, NONE of us have to remain broken
- The religious leaders of Jesus’ day, struggled greatly with admitting they were sinners in need of saving
 - This is why Jesus so often confronted the Pharisees over being hypocrites
 - The Pharisees FAILED to live up to the religious standards, which they instructed others to live by
- It is through Christ that the naturally Poor in Spirit gain access to an eternity as citizens & heirs of the Kingdom