Session 3

Blessed are those who Mourn

I. Going for a vibrant heart – be one of the Blessed

A. 1 Pet 1:8 - Though you have not seen Him, you love Him…

1. You greatly rejoice with a joy inexpressible & full of glory – a vibrant heart!

II. Pursuing each of these in every area of our heart

A. Intellect
B. Emotions
C. Memories
D. Our Will
E. Our Appetites
F. Relational faculties
G. Personality

III. The Poor in Spirit – absolute dependence on God - Foundational

A. We can't do God's job
B. He won't do ours
C. But He will give us great assistance – the Holy Spirit!

IV. Those who mourn Mt 5:4

A. Those who are deprived of something dear to them

1. Loss of a loved one
2. Grief over the absence of someone greatly loved
3. We do not mourn as those who have no hope…
4. Why does Jesus consider this important for those who are His followers, for those who are to be part of His Kingdom?

B. How did Jesus exhibit this?

1. Is 53 – Man of Sorrows, acquainted with grief.
2. Mt 27:46 – My God, why have you forsaken me?
3. Separation from His most beloved Father.
4. Jn 17 – I'm coming back, Father.

C. Jesus other words on Mourning

1. Mt 9:15, Mk 2:22; Lk 5:37
   a. The Friends of the Bridegroom will mourn

b. The friends will fast
c. This is the new wineskin…

2. Jn 3:29 – John the Baptist
   a. The Friend of the Bridegroom rejoices greatly as the sound of His voice

D. The Bride who Mourns
1. We are the Bride of Christ, separated from being face to face with the One we deeply love
   a. Maranatha! 1 Cor 16:2 O Lord, Come!
   b. The Spirit & the Bride say 'Come!' Rev 22:17, 21
   c. Longing for Him, His return, His presence

E. Mourning for His Return
1. Longing for immediate presence of the One we deeply love
2. The call to Watch & Wait
3. Mt 25:1; 24:48; Lk 35-48
4. Those who love His appearing – I Tim 4:8
5. God's job – Holy Spirit put power upon our hearts
6. Our job – set our hearts to know Him more
7. One who is longing for His return would do the following:
   a. Fast – Mourn – internal, private expression of longing
      (1) Tenderizes our hearts towards Him
      (2) Mt 6:16 When you fast
   b. Watch for Him
      (1) Study everything we can possibly know.
      (2) Keep looking, keep digging… is this the day?
      (3) He told us what to watch for… Mt 24
   c. Wait – Is 40:31; 8:17; Mic 7:7; many Psalms
      (1) Take time to think on Him. Focus our thoughts, our heart on this glorious Man.
      (2) Dialogue with HS about Him. Jesus gave us the Holy Spirit to bring consolation to our heart, not so that our hearts would move to an attitude of laziness, what will be, will be… but to keep our heart burning for Him.
      (3) Dialogue with one another about Him.
   d. To cry out: Come Lord Jesus
      (1) This is not a peripheral topic, a secondary doctrine, "they are central to the whole ethos of the body of Christ. The

Bridegroom left on a journey just before the journey, and the Bride cannot act as if things are normal. If she loves Him, she will ache for His return." Piper p.86, A Hunger for God.

(2) There will be a new song that will arise throughout the earth, the song of the Bride's longing for His return. Is 42.

e. Paul's desire to be with Jesus – Phil 1:23

8. To mourn is to be Lovesick
   a. Song 5:8-6:1
   b. Not contentment, but longing to see Him.
   c. Not complacency, but passion to be with Him
   d. Not dullness of heart, but burning desire to.
9. Isaiah 42
   a. The new song that arises across the earth – is the song of the lovesick bride who will not be silenced in her longing for her Bridegroom to return.

F. They will be comforted

1. When I found Him, I did not let Him go! Song 3:4
2. What greater comfort does a Bride separated from Her bridegroom received except to stand face to face the One she loves?

G. Why is this important to Jesus and His Kingdom?

1. Lk 18 – will He return for a Bride who isn't interested, forgotten Him or chasing other lovers? He is returning to the Bride who is crying out for the ultimate justice – That Jesus returns to take up His throne with her at His side as His Bride – fully engaged in partnership in ruling His Kingdom.
2. Bridal Intercession