

BTC - MARCH 5, 1989

MATTHEW 5:1-3

LUKE 7:1-10

"HAPPY WHEN I AM POOR"

THE NIGHT BEFORE JESUS CHOSE HIS TWELVE DISCIPLES, HE PRAYED ALL NIGHT TO GOD. AFTER JESUS CHOSE HIS TWELVE DISCIPLES, HE STARTED TEACHING THEM MORE ABOUT OBEYING HIM. JESUS PREACHED A VERY IMPORTANT SERMON TO THE DISCIPLES; THIS SERMON WAS CALLED "THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT."

JESUS PREACHED THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT TO TELL THE DISCIPLES THAT IF THEY OBEYED HIM AND IF THEY LET HIS LOVE STAY IN THEIR HEARTS ALL THE TIME, THEN THEY WOULD BE VERY HAPPY. THE DISCIPLES HAD A VERY IMPORTANT JOB TO DO — DOING JESUS' WORK — AND JESUS PREACHED THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT TO TELL THEM MORE ABOUT THE WORK HE WANTED THEM TO DO.

ONE THING JESUS TOLD THE DISCIPLES IN HIS SERMON ON THE MOUNT WAS, "BLESSED ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT; FOR THEIRS IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN."

THIS MEANS THAT THE WAY TO BE HAPPY AND BLESSED IN YOUR HEART IS TO KNOW THAT YOU ARE NOT THE MOST IMPORTANT; TO KNOW THAT YOU NEED JESUS TO BE YOUR SAVIOUR AND SPECIAL FRIEND.

THE WAY TO BE HAPPY AND BLESSED IN YOUR HEART IS

A PERSON WHO TELLS JESUS THEY ARE SORRY FOR THEIR SINS AND ASKS JESUS TO BE THEIR VERY OWN SAVIOUR, IS SAVED. BEING SAVED MAKES US BLESSED AND HAPPY. BEING SAVED MEANS WE WILL LIVE IN HEAVEN SOMEDAY. SAVED PEOPLE ARE HAPPY BECAUSE THEY KNOW THEY HAVE JESUS AS THEIR SPECIAL FRIEND AND THEY KNOW SOMEDAY THEY WILL LIVE IN HEAVEN FOREVER.

TO BE "POOR IN SPIRIT" IS TO BE A PERSON WHO KNOWS THAT THE IMPORTANT THINGS IN LIFE ARE NOT THINGS YOU BUY WITH MONEY — THE IMPORTANT THINGS IN LIFE ARE JESUS, HIS LOVE, BEING SAVED, LIVING FOR JESUS, AND GOING TO HEAVEN.