

Christian Attitudes

The Ten Commandments were given at Sinai. These commandments give guidelines for faith. With the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus gave a new and extended ethic for the people of the new covenant. All those who make up the kingdom live in a new age governed by the commands of Christ Himself. While the Law of Moses retains its full effect, it is extended by a greater ethic given by One greater than Moses.

[Mathew 5: 1:12](#), these verses deal with attitudes—what we think in our hearts, our outlook on life. “Beatitudes” the *attitudes* that ought to *be* in our lives if we are true Christians.

A. “Poor in spirit” (v.3).

Our attitude toward ourselves in which we feel our need and admit it.

B. “Mourn” (v.4).

Our attitude toward sin, a true sorrow for sin.

C. “Meek” (v.5).

Our attitude toward others; we are teachable; we do not defend ourselves when we are wrong.

D. “Hunger and thirst” (v.6).

Here our attitude toward God is expressed; we receive His righteousness by faith because we ask for it.

The rest of the Beatitudes show the results of the new life in the believer:

E. “Merciful” (v.7).

We have a forgiving spirit and love others.

F. “Pure in heart” (v.8).

We keep our lives clean; holiness is happiness to us, and we want no substitutes.

G. “Peacemakers” (v.9).

Christians should bring peace, between people and God and between those who are at odds with each other. We share the Gospel of peace.

H. “Persecuted” (v.10).

All who live godly lives will suffer persecution.

(Alexander Thomas)