

HOLY SPIRIT: POOR IN SPIRIT

Matthew 5:3 – “Blessed are the poor in spirit” (Matthew 5:3).

Happiness comes from poverty of spirit. We have no resources God can use. The Devil promises happiness without righteousness. The world is the Devil’s alternative to God’s righteous rule. The poor in spirit are not fooled by the allure of the world. The poor in spirit understand their emptiness without God’s grace. The poor in spirit have nothing to give God and nothing God needs. The Holy Spirit is the total supply of everything we need. The poor in spirit possess the same attitude as the Lord. “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich” (II Corinthians 8:9). Poverty of spirit is poverty with respect to spirit. We are blessed when we are made conscious of our misery and want. Pride has been broken. The Holy Spirit has convicted us of our utter helplessness. We can expect nothing from ourselves and everything from God. There are two Greek words for poor. One means pauper, the other means beggar. The pauper is poor because of his circumstances. The beggar is poor, because he chooses to be poor. He has nothing and lives on the bounty of others. That is the word Jesus used for poor in spirit. The poor in spirit are destitute, bankrupt and live on the bounty of God. The poor in spirit are conscious of their need and depend on the Holy Spirit for everything. The poor in spirit begin with the knowledge that their usefulness to God originates in the purpose of God, and the filling of that purpose comes through the Holy Spirit. As God’s children, the poor in spirit trust the Holy Spirit for everything.