



Lights and Perfection, Inc.

Go and make disciples!

E-votional 42

Poor in spirit

Matthew 5:3 (ESV),

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

This really is a remarkable passage whereby we can ascertain a sort of mindset we should have in Christ. The poor in spirit in this case I am led to believe is not necessarily of the poor in this world who do not have earthly goods to their name. Nor, do I think it has to do with a people or people group who has simply been dealt a rough hand in life circumstantially or otherwise.

Jesus really was the Master of interpreting spiritual truth to those in need in a way that captivated some and left others baffled by the very meaning. Being poor in spirit is not just a state of being that one might find themselves in from time to time, but in reality is a state of being that all of humanity is in. It is to those who recognize this aspect that the Kingdom of heaven belongs to. Allow me to shed some light on this with some lyrics to a beautiful song titled ‘*O Come To The Altar*,’ by Elevation Worship (2017).

Are you hurting and broken within?

Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin?

Jesus is calling

Have you come to the end of yourself?

Do you thirst for a drink from the well?

Jesus is calling

The truth is that everyone on the planet is hurting and broken within. The element of the spirit of one who is poor by definition would be those who realize this. Many are hurting and broken and really do not realize what it is they are even

experiencing. I recall my earlier days apart from Christ when I had no strength in myself but kept plugging along trying my best to mask what I felt inside as I strove for purpose in an empty and vain life set out by none other than myself. Truly here I was poor in my spirit, I only did not recognize what it was. That is until I had the light of Jesus Christ shine upon me. When this light shone upon me, it was as if something inside me awakened. However, when this something inside me awakened, a certain hollowness and emptiness also arose. What I am referring to was an indication of a stepping stone much like what Isaiah experienced as I am sure many of you have as well in Isaiah 6:5 (ESV),

And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!"

The hollowness and emptiness that I experienced was my soul bearing witness to me in the light of Christ that I had reserved areas of my heart that were unwilling to submit. When these were shown, however, I realized that nothing in me was clean, while at the same time I was beholding the glory of the Lord that was able to change that.

Therefore, my pooriness in spirit was revealed to me. It was a rather bittersweet area of my life that I get a chance to revisit from time to time as I meditate on the glory of the Lord and in His glory, it is revealed that I am literally nothing without Him. Praise God!

This business of being poor in spirit is then now realized as a beautiful thing where the Lord shows us that without Him we are nothing and can be nothing apart from Him. The amazing thing is the grace that He affords to those who have within themselves answered this question, like the song says, *"Have you come to the end of yourself? Do you thirst for a drink from the well?"*

We are all broken by sin and none of us is exempt from this. There are things going on inside of us that are simply too deep for words or thoughts. For this reason, God at times will indeed put a hand on areas of our lives where we think, 'hey, I'm doing alright here,' to show us that in fact, we may not be doing alright there. However, it is also at these moments that He is standing and waiting for us to realize within ourselves the need for all of Him and less of us. In regards to this inner work we all must go through, we become poor in spirit having nothing good in ourselves apart from Him. In God's wisdom, it can be known in these times that we may, like Isaiah get a better glimpse of Him in the weaker parts of ourselves as He brings us from one degree of glory to another (2 Corinthians 3:18). For to such belongs the Kingdom of heaven.

Lord, thank You so much for Your patience with us. You are so merciful to repeatedly take away those things that stand in between us and Yourself to show us Your grand purpose for each of us individually and just how all the pieces fit together. Please, Lord, continue to make us and fashion us for greater works than we could ever imagine. Allow us to have a deepened experience where we are emptied of ourselves and filled with all of You. In Jesus name. Amen

In Christ's Love,
Chris and Jeanne
Lights and Perfection, Inc



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