

Lessons From the Sermon of Jesus on the Mountain Part 9

“Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled:” (Matthew 5:6 KJV)

We continue in this message to study on how we hunger and thirst for righteousness.

We learn about the righteousness of God from the following:

I. We learn from the life of Jesus Christ’s who teaches us how to hunger and thirst for righteousness: Jesus is our ultimate example of righteousness, and as we look deeply into His life and into His saying, and on what He did, we learn what God is requiring from us to live a righteous life that God desire. In any situation that you put on and you don’t know how to act and what to do, ask yourself ‘*If Jesus is in the same situation, what He is going to do?*’ When you answer this question then you will know what to do.

II. We learn from the Scriptures that teach us how to hunger and thirst for righteousness: *The Scripture teach us how to hunger and thirst for righteousness and will confirm to us what filling and satisfaction we will receive from God as we delight in His righteousness. Therefore we read the Bible daily so we will be reminded about what we need to do and act in various aspects of our lives and in various circumstances that we are put on.*

Let us now continue through the Scriptures and learn from them the righteousness of God and how to hunger and thirst for righteousness.

13. “And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.” (Ephesians 4:24 KJV) God in coming to Him through Christ Jesus our Lord wants us to put off the old life and to put on the new man that is created in the righteousness of God. The righteous man in Christ Jesus needs to put the new man which after God created in righteousness and holiness. A new man is ought to be without sinful acts, practices and inclinations. The new man need to give up certain sinful things. *Therefore, as we desire to hunger and thirst for righteousness we need to get rid of whatever sinful things whether big or small and follow the ways of God in living in holiness for him.*

14. “For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.” (James 1:20 KJV) The righteous man needs to give up anger. The righteous man needs to control his anger, his temper, and needs not to do wicked things or wrong things when he is angry. *Put in your mind that the Scripture does not tell us not to be angry, but not to sin while we are angry, and not to let anger stay in our hearts beyond the night sleep.* ***“4 Stand in awe, and sin not: commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still. Selah. 5 Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, and put your trust in the LORD.” (Psalm 4:4-5 KJV)*** *While you are angry, control yourself; don’t allow anger to cause you to speak bad, to think bad, or to take wrong decision and to act unwisely.* Before you go into sleep settle it ***“Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath.” (Ephesians 4:26 KJV)*** *Allow the Holy Spirit to control you while you are angry, and take you out of the bad effect of anger toward taking the right decision.*

When it says “Offer the sacrifices of righteousness,” it means not to speak something not correct, or burst with bad language, or pray wrong prayers, or do something wrong.

15. “Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?” (2 Corinthians 6:14 KJV) *God does not want us to be yoked with non believer’s friends who will influence us with wrong thoughts and pull us to do wrong. God want us to move away from the media, U tube, Facebook, TV, and from parties, and the rest of the worldly gathering that mix us and expose us to worldly people, because through all these we will be infected with worldly evil ingredients.*

Fellowship with non believers will bring darkness into our lives. God does not want us to marry non believers. Marrying with non believers will make us yoked with unrighteousness and with the work of darkness.

16. “Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.” (James 5:16 KJV) Confession of sin to one another is for counseling and giving advices. *The church leaders who fear God and walk in His ways are the right people who will give advices from God’s Word.*

The righteous man gives advices to help people to come out of their sins and troubles, and in this way God will heal them, not only from their physical sicknesses but as well as from their spiritual bondages. The prayer of the righteous person is fervent, and his prayer is rewarded and answered by the Lord according to His glorious riches and grace in Christ Jesus our Lord.

17. “And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him.” (Matthew 3:15 KJV) To live righteous life we need to fulfill the commands of God and the instructions of His Word. Jesus said it is proper for us to fulfill all righteousness. Water baptism is one of the requirements that we need to pass through. *All believers in Christ, after their repentance need to get water baptized, immersed in water and to rise to a new life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Not only the water Baptism we need to fulfill, but all the commandments of God and the instructions of His Word.*

18. “For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 5:20 KJV) *Jesus wants us to be at the expectation of what his Word says. God wants us to persevere in doing what is right and just. Our righteousness in Jesus Christ should reach the level of what the Scriptures speak so we can enter into the Kingdom of God.*

Salvation is not by work, salvation is by grace through faith and that is the gift of God, but after being saved, we are called to do the work that God prepared in advance for us to do, which is the righteous acts of the saints, and that will be the breastplate of righteousness that will shield us and protect us from the attacks of the enemy.

19. ***“Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness.” (Ephesians 6:14 KJV)*** The breastplate of righteousness is a protection to us from the work of the devil when we do what is right and just. *Living in righteousness and away from sin is the way to protect ourselves from the penetration of Satan and the power of darkness.*

20. ***“And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.” (John 16:8 KJV)*** *In addition to the Word of God that we read daily through our daily Bible reading, the Lord will impart to us His righteousness through the message we hear in Bible study and in church service, and through the Holy Spirit who will be the one who will speak to us and convict us to do what is correct and right. Therefore we need to listen to His voice, heed and obey.* As we heed and obey, then we will be filled with the fruits of righteousness, ***“Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.” (Philippians 1:11 KJV)*** *We need to be filled with good fruit and with good work, so that we will be good example and a good testimony to others. Therefore we need to heed the voice of the Holy Spirit and to do what He is asking us to do.*

When you listen and obey the voice of the Holy Spirit, you will be doing a righteous deed, and in such way you are ready and prepared for the events to come in the future.

But when God is speaking to you and you are not doing what He is asking you to do, then, later in other stage of your life, you will be facing certain situations but you will not be able to proceed further because you are not ready, and the reason for you not to be ready because you did not do what the Holy Spirit said to you in the previous stations of your life.

21. ***“Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.” (Hebrews 12:11 KJV)*** The Lord also will impart to us righteousness through the discipline, and the hardship that He will allow to take place in our lives. *Problems, trials, struggles and challenges are used by God to impart to us not only pain and discipline but the peaceable fruit of righteousness. Therefore we need to adjust ourselves and accept such so we will be trained and become filled with the fruit of righteousness.*

22. ***“But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.” (Acts 10:35 KJV)*** God has no regard or respect for man, but in any nation those who fear Him and work righteousness are accepted by Him. Therefore, we are called to preach the gospel of Jesus to everyone and we need to understand that God is just and He is accepting everyone who fear Him and work the righteousness that God ordains. *We need to preach the gospel because God had appointed a day that He will judge the whole world in righteousness, according to the right things that had been done, by Jesus Christ our Lord.* ***“Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.” (Acts 17:31 KJV)***

23. ***“And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee. “ (Acts 24:25 KJV)*** *When we preach the good news we need to speak about the righteousness of God and reason for it. We need to heed to the voice of the Holy Spirit and to tell the message that God wants us to speak and tell to the people concerned.*

Here in Acts 24:25 as we read, ***“And after certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, which was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ.”*** The historian described that Drusilla was a wife of another man, but she was taken away from her husband to marry Felix. So when Paul was preaching about righteousness, and temperance or self control, Felix was trembling because of his adultery, being married to a woman who was married before. He was trembling because the Holy Spirit was convicting him for the righteous things that he did not do in his life. Paul spoke to Felix the Word of God as he was led by the Holy Spirit. Felix trembled when Paul was speaking about righteousness, and self control because what Paul was preaching had hit the sins of Felix and Drusilla. We need to be led by the Holy Spirit to bring the message that God wants us to bring to the people around us.

Paul was in prison because of Jewish persecution. Felix was the governor and he kept Paul because he was expecting from him a bribe. ***“He hoped also that money should have been given him of Paul, that he might loose him: wherefore he sent for him the oftener, and communed with him.” (Acts 24:26 KJV)*** Felix was not interested in the message of Paul but he was waiting for Paul to pay him a bribe to release him, but Paul refrained from doing that. *We need to be firm not to compromise or to bribe people when it comes to the Word God. We ought to suffer for Christ in order to continue to hunger and thirst for righteousness, even if it is causing us more troubles as it had happened to Paul,* ***“27 But after two years Porcius Festus came into Felix' room: and Felix, willing to shew the Jews a pleasure, left Paul bound.” (Acts 24:27 KJV)*** *God inspite of all that will see us through and He will reward us.*

24. ***“16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.” (2 Timothy 3;16-17 KJV)*** *The Scriptures will instruct us, will teach us the doctrine the way we live, will rebuke us, will correct us, and will train us how to live in righteousness.*

The Scriptures will reproof us, correct us, instruct us and train us how to spread His Word and be fit and prepared at all times how to do the good work of God, therefore, we need to trust the Lord and speak and preach His Word as He is leading us to do that.

My dear and beloved:

- Let us consider carefully the message that we received today from the Lord.
- Let us meditate into the life of Jesus and on what He did while He was on earth.
- Let us see what He did and how He acted while He was on the cross.
- Let us use His life as a reference for us to take Godly and wise decisions in our lives that will lead us to hunger and thirst for righteousness.

- Let us meditate on the Scriptures so that we may learn the good things that God wants us to learn from His Word and adopt them in our lives.
- Let us be willing to change our style of life and,
- Let us be willing to take the attitude and the character of Jesus in our dealings and relationship with others around us and with the circumstances and the events of life.
- Let us take the good examples of the holy men of God and how they hunger and thirst for righteousness in order to fulfill the will of God and desire more of Jesus into our lives.

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the death on the third day to give me eternal life.

Lord forgives me my sins _____.

Let us confess and renounce our sins to the Lord. Let us confess and renounce all our pride, our wrong ways of life and our non willingness to follow the ways of God.

Lord I thank you for your Word to me that explains to me that I need to know your righteousness and how to hunger and to thirst after your righteousness. Lord I commit my life into your hands. Lord I am willing to follow the example of Jesus in my life and I learned from the Scriptures. Lord gives me more fruit of the Holy Spirit so that I can persevere more in obeying your Word.

Lord I commit my life to be set as a good example to others, that they may see you through my life. Lord I pray that I will have more of the fruit of the Holy Spirit in my life, the love, joy, peace, patience, perseverance, self-control, gentleness and kindness. Lord fills me with the Holy Spirit and gives to me the spiritual gifts that I need to evangelize and to make new disciples. Lord protects me and provides all my needs so I can continue to go on and serve you.

Lord I pray for my Brothers and Sisters who had humbled themselves before you to learn your righteousness and how to hunger and thirst for righteousness. Lord protect them and provide all their needs. Lord fills them once again with the Holy Spirit and makes their lives testimony attractive to others so that people will believe in you and start to follow you and live according to your Word and your righteousness.

Lord I pray for us as a church to help us to go on in serving you and do your work and your will. Lord we commit ourselves to do what is right and just in your eyes. Lord continues to reveal your will to us and your righteousness so we will continue to declare your righteous acts to all the nations and the people around us. Lord transform our lives and fills us once again with the Holy Spirit and enables us to evangelize and to reach new people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and with the Word of God. Lord we pray that you will enable us to plant new Bible studies and new congregations for the church. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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