



# FearLESS 2.0

Matthew 5:1-16

What True Righteousness Is (Matt. 5:1–16)



Warren W. Wiersbe, [The Bible Exposition Commentary](#), vol. 1 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1996), 21–22.

## Matthew 5:12-16 (NKJV)

12 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

13 “You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.

14 “You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

**FearLESS**

**Matthew 5:1-16**

15 Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.

16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

**Fear**LESS

**Matthew 5:1-16**

Being a Master Teacher, our Lord did not begin this important sermon with an undesirable criticism of the scribes and Pharisees.

He started with a definite emphasis on righteous character and the blessings that it brings to the life of the believer.

**FearLESS**

**Matthew 5:1-16**

The Pharisees taught that righteousness was an external thing, a matter of obeying rules and regulations.

Righteousness could be measured by praying, giving, fasting, etc.

**FearLESS**

**Matthew 5:1-16**

In the Beatitudes and the pictures of the believer, Jesus described Christian character that flowed from within, and it comes from your heart.

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**Matthew 5:1-16**

Imagine how the crowd's attention was riveted on Jesus when He uttered His first word: "Blessed." (The Latin word for blessed is beatus, and from this comes the word beatitude.)

Beatus was a powerful word to those who heard Jesus that day. To them, it meant "divine joy and perfect happiness."

**FearLESS**

**Matthew 5:1-16**

The word was not used for humans; it described the kind of joy experienced only by the gods or the dead.

“It is so awesome because we who are alive in Christ can experience it on this side of heaven!

Blessed” implied an inner satisfaction and sufficiency that did not depend on outward circumstances for happiness.

**FearLESS**

**Matthew 5:1-16**



Being blessed is what the Lord offers those who trust Him!

The Beatitudes describe the attitudes that ought to be in our lives today.

Four attitudes are described here.

**FearLESS**

**Matthew 5:1-16**

1

# Our Attitude Toward Ourselves.

(v. 3)

Matthew 5:3 (NKJV)

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

**Fear**LESS

**Matthew 5:1-16**

To be poor in spirit means to be humble, to have a correct estimate of oneself.

Romans 12:3 (NKJV)

For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

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**Matthew 5:1-16**

It does not mean to be “poor spirited” and have no backbone at all!

“Poor in spirit” is the opposite of the world’s attitudes of self-praise and self-assertion.

**Fear**LESS

**Matthew 5:1-16**

It is not a false humility that says, “I am not worth anything, I can’t do anything!”

It is honesty with ourselves: we know ourselves, accept ourselves, and try to be ourselves to the glory of God.

**FearLESS**

**Matthew 5:1-16**

2

# Our Attitude Toward Our Sins.

(Vv. 4–6)

**Fear**LESS

**Matthew 5:1-16**

Matthew 5:4–6 (NKJV)

4 Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted.

5 Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.

6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled.

**Fear**LESS

**Matthew 5:1-16**

We mourn over sin and despise it. We see sin the way God sees it and seek to treat it the way God does.

Indeed, those who cover sin or defend sin have the wrong attitude.

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**Matthew 5:1-16**



We should not only mourn over our sins, but we should also meekly submit to God.

James 4:7 (NKJV) Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

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**Matthew 5:1-16**

- Meekness is not weakness, for both Moses and Jesus were meek men (Num. 12:3; Matt. 11:29).

Numbers 12:3 (NKJV) (Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth.)

Matthew 11:29 (NKJV) Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

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**Matthew 5:1-16**

- This word translated “mEEK” was used by the Greeks to describe a horse that had been broken.
- It refers to power under control

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**Matthew 5:1-16**

3

# Our Attitude Toward The Lord.

(vv. 7–9)

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**Matthew 5:1-16**

Matthew 5:7–9 (NKJV)

7 Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy.

8 Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.

9 Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God.

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**Matthew 5:1-16**

We experience God's mercy when we trust Christ:

Ephesians 2:4–7 (NKJV)

4 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,  
5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),  
6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,  
7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

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**Matthew 5:1-16**

He gives us a clean heart:

Acts 15:9 (NKJV) and made no distinction between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.

Peace within:

Romans 5:1 (NKJV) Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

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**Matthew 5:1-16**

Having received His mercy, we then share His mercy with others.

We seek to keep our hearts pure that we might see God in our lives every day.

We become peacemakers in a troubled world and channels for God's mercy, purity, and peace.

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**Matthew 5:1-16**



1 Thessalonians 4:9–12 (NKJV)

9 But concerning brotherly love you have no need that I should write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another;

10 and indeed you do so toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, that you increase more and more;

11 that you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you,

12 that you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and that you may lack nothing.

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**Matthew 5:1-16**

# 4

# Our Attitude Toward The World. (Vv. 10–16)

**Fear**LESS

**Matthew 5:1-16**

Matthew 5:10–16 (NKJV)

10 Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 “Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake.

12 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

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**Matthew 5:1-16**

13 “You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.

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15 Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.

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**Matthew 5:1-16**

- It is not easy to be a dedicated Christian.

Matthew 10:24–26 (NKJV)

24 “A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master.

25 It is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher, and a servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more will they call those of his household!

**FearLESS**

**Matthew 5:1-16**

26 Therefore do not fear them. For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known.

**Fear**LESS

**Matthew 5:1-16**

- Our society is not a friend to God nor God's people.

Whether we like it or not, there is a conflict between us and the world. Because we are different from the world, and we have different attitudes.

**FearLESS**

**Matthew 5:1-16**

The Beatitudes, we find that they represent an outlook radically different from that of the world.

- The world praises pride, not humility.

Psalm 40:4 (NKJV) Blessed is that man who makes the LORD his trust, And does not respect the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies.

- The world endorses sin, especially if you “get away with it.”

**FearLESS**

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