

Fully Satisfied

Matthew 5.6

Overview

Setup:

- Jesus comes to fulfill the Promises of the 1T/OT
- We see that in the first verse of Matthew
 - The reference to Abraham and David show the reader Jesus is the fulfillment of all the promises made to these Old Testament patriarchs
- We see that in Jesus' baptism (Matthew 3.13): "Fulfill all righteousness"
- Matthew 5.3-5 involves things that connote our emptiness:
 - "Poor in Spirit": Poverty before the Living God
 - "Mourn": Referencing sin, mourning for the sin that makes us poor
 - "Meek": Need for strength outside ourselves so as to not live within our own passions

Jesus Christ is the only thing that can fill you up

- Vs. 6 is the switch where Jesus tells us where our emptiness can be filled up
- "Hunger and Thirst" = Desire/Craving/Want/Yearning/Need/Longing
 - The verb here is present active: Means this is something that is ongoing
- Righteousness is what Jesus, the Son of God, understands to satisfy us
 - Jesus does not say "blessed are those who hunger and thirst to be blessed":
 - Jesus loves to give good gifts, but His agenda is not ultimately about our comfort, but Gods glory
- Christ comes to make righteousness possible and therefore, meet our deepest need which leads to satisfaction (John 6.35):
 - Justification: By Grace through Faith we lay hold of the righteousness of God in Christ and are made righteous by His righteousness (2 Cor. 5.21)
- Righteousness reflects the Purity of God:
 - Matthew 3.13, 5.10, 20, 6.1, 33, 21.32
 - These verses tell us righteousness is from God, given to us "internally" and works itself out externally in the way we live.
- This Righteousness is Free to us: Isaiah 55.1-3
- Since we who are in Christ are full of His righteousness we ought not hunger and thirst for the world (1 John 2.15)
- Meet God in the places He promises to meet you and ask God to reorient your appetites

Questions

Discussion Starter: *What are some things that we try and fill our emptiness with? Or What are some promises we are told that will "complete" us?*

1. Read Matthew 5.3-12. Discuss how the first three Beatitudes (5:3, 4, 5) show how we, left to ourselves, are empty.
2. Read Matthew 3.13-15. What does this tell us about what Christ came to do? How does this compare with our position as noted in the first three Beatitudes?
3. In Matthew 5:6, what is meant by 'hunger and thirst'? How does this related to the first three Beatitudes?
4. Why would righteousness meet our deepest need (i.e. why would it satisfy us)?
5. How does Christ go about fulfilling righteousness?

6. Use other passages in Matthew, specifically in the Sermon on the Mount, to determine what righteousness is?
7. For those in Christ, why do we often 'hunger and thirst' for the things of the world and neglect the thing that Jesus promises us will satisfy us?
8. What are some of the places God promises to meet us and 'feed' us? Why to we so often quick to neglect these means and look for other ways for God to satisfy us?

Accountability Question: *As we consider these Beatitudes, what is Jesus teaching you about what it means to follow Christ? How does Jesus' words here square with your life? Where could you use accountability, prayer, and/or encouragement?*