

Seven Beatitudes of Revelation

By Paul R. Blake

Introduction:

- A. Idea from a sermon called The Seven Blesseds of Revelation by C.D. Plum
- B. Multiple use of sevens in Revelation: 7 letters to 7 churches, 7 seals, 7 stars, 7 bowls, 7 kings, 7 angels, 7 mountains, 7 spirits, 7 thunders, 7 messengers, 7 lampstands, 7 horns, 7 eyes on the lamb, 7 heads on the beast, 7 heads with 7 crowns on the red dragon
 - 1. It follows the pattern for the blessed of Revelation to come in seven
- C. The blessed are written in the form of the Beatitudes of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount
 - 1. Beatitudes of Matthew 5:3-11 - Blessed = Happy "The Happy Attitudes"
- D. Rev. 1:3 - "Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near. 14:13 Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, 'Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' Yes, says the Spirit, That they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them. 16:15 Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame. 19:9 Then he said to me, Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!' And he said to me, These are the true sayings of God. 20:6 Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years. 22:7 Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book. 22:14 Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city."

I. BLESSED #1

- A. Rev. 1:3 - "Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keeps those things which are written in it: for the time is near."
 - 1. It is not enough to hear and intellectually acknowledge the word of God
 - a. James 1:22-25
 - 2. They must resolve to persevere - Eph. 6:13; Gal. 6:9
- B. Hear, obey, hold on - this is the formula to get from the present through the future trials into eternal happiness
 - 1. You are not going to get out of the hardships.
 - 2. The only question you need to face is do you want to face them with no hope and to no purpose, or do you want to face them with hope and reward on the other side.

II. BLESSED #2

- A. Rev. 14:13 - "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. Yes, says the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."
 - 1. Revelation 14 is a scene of victory for followers of God and a vision of punishment for followers of evil.

- B. How can death be considered a blessing?
 - 1. 2Tim. 4:6-8; Psalms 116:15
 - 2. Whether good or evil, everyone has to die. The question that remains is how you choose to die: in sorrow and emptiness, or full of days in the Lord and filled with hope

III. BLESSED #3

- A. Rev. 16:15 - "Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame."
- B. Jesus is coming to judge. Blessedness comes through vigilant preparation
 - 1. We will be happy if we are watchful and remain spiritually clean
 - 2. James 1:27; 1John 3:2-3
- C. "It is so much more fun and much easier to just have a good time now. Why must I go to all of the work of keeping pure and live with the trepidation of Judgment?"
 - 1. Have you considered the alternative?
 - 2. Are you really having fun? Consider the process of becoming jaded.

IV. BLESSED #4

- A. Rev. 19:9 - "Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb! And he said to me, These are the true sayings of God."
 - 1. What does it take to receive an invitation to the marriage feast of the Lamb? They have a permanent relationship with the royal family
 - 2. They are part of the Church, the Bride of Christ
- B. Matt. 22:1-14
 - 1. View the invitation as more important than any other matter
 - 2. Conduct yourself as an honorable example of a member of the Church
 - 3. Live with the understanding that if you do not, the invitation will be withdrawn and you will be outside
- C. Consider it an honor to be a member of the Lord's Church and never treat it lightly, for only those who are members of the Lord's church in this dispensation have any hope of eternal salvation. Even many of them will not be saved

V. BLESSED #5

- A. Rev. 20:6 - "Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years."
- B. Faithful Christians will not experience the second death, which is eternal separation from God
 - 1. Rev. 20:13-15; 1Peter 2:9; 2Tim. 2:12; Rev. 3:21

VI. BLESSED #6

- A. Rev. 22:7 - "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."

1. Revelation 22 is one of the most comforting passages of scripture in the Bible. W. W. Otey coined the phrase: "Genesis three is the tree of life lost; Revelation 22 is the tree of life regained."
- B. Who among us will legitimately pluck fruit from the tree of life by the river that flows through the New Jerusalem?
 1. Ecc. 12:13; Luke 11:27-28

VII. BLESSED #7

- A. Rev. 22:14 - "Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city."
 1. There will never be a higher, better destination for a human being
 2. God created man and prepared the Garden of Eden for him. That did not work out. Now He has prepared a place for us in His home
 3. John 14:1-6, 15; Heb. 5:8-9

Conclusion: Rev. 22:16-17