

# Blessed Are Those Who Mourn

Bob Harper

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## Blessed Are Those Who Mourn For They Will Be Comforted Matthew 5.4

The way of Jesus is the way of weakness. The church is most powerful when it embraces its weakness and fulfills its prophetic role to speak to power from weakness.

In our age there are four different positions the church can find itself in relative to power:

1. The church has power .
2. The church has no power .
3. The church has some power .
4. The church embraces its weakness .

The basis for living in the Kingdom, the foundation for living in weakness is poverty of spirit (Matt. 5.3).

A community poor in spirit would:

- Courageously champion truth.
- Naturally live in accountability with each other.
- Face the world on God's behalf
- Mourn over the challenge. Because the state of the world and the state of our own hearts is so difficult we can only stand before it in grief.

Power is a necessary evil. We need someone to lead us or we fall into chaos and confusion. Power is difficult, though, because our age is interwoven with malevolence (definition: smoldering ill will). The theological word for this is sin. Sin is interwoven in the creation distorting the use of power and establishing a "zeitgeist (spirit of the age)" which blinds people to truth.

The poor in spirit see this with growing clarity and mourn before it as they look toward the age to come (Gal. 1.4 cf Eph. 2.6-7).

God comforts His people (Isa. 61.1-3; Ps. 119.50; 2 Cor. 1.3-5)

Jesus promises to comfort His people with the Holy Spirit (Jn. 14.16)

The Holy Spirit comforts:

- With truth

(Jn. 14.17)

- With presence

(Jn. 14.18)

- With revelation

(Jn 14. 25-27; 15.26)

- With peace

(Jn 14. 27)

- With power

(Jn 16.7-11)