

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE



*glimpses
of glory*

MESSAGE: NATHAN BAIRD

MUSIC: REBECCA FRENCH, BROOKE THIELEN, PAOLO CORONEL

DATE: APRIL 30, 2023

Citizen of Jesus's Kingdom Possess Ultimate Joy Beyond Earthly Standards Luke 6:17-26

Remember

- **Luke's purpose** - ***Luke 1:3**...to write an orderly account for you... 4 that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught.*
- **Jesus's purpose** - ***Luke 4: 43** "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose."*

Unhindered by opposition, Jesus continues his ministry to growing numbers of people

***Luke 6:17** And he came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, **18** who came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. And those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. **19** And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came out from him and healed them all.*

Joyful Kingdom citizens endure temporary hardship for eternal benefits

***Luke 6:20** And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. **21**"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh. **22** "Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! **23** Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.*

What does "blessed" mean in the New Testament?

"The special feature in the New Testament is [the] use of the term ["blessed"] for the distinctive joy which comes through participation in the divine kingdom." — Theological Dictionary of the New Testament

The Kingdom of God is supremely valuable.

Matthew 13: 44 *"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.*

Our joy is secure when God's righteous rule is the overwhelming drive of our lives.

Matthew 6:20 *but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

Rejecting Jesus's eternal Kingdom for temporary comfort is tragically short-sighted

Luke 6:24 *"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. 25" Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry. "Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep. 26" Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.*

Reflection/Discussion

1. How does your present "blessedness" as a citizen of Jesus's eternal Kingdom affect your view of your material circumstances?
2. Have you ever experienced ridicule for your loyalty to Jesus? How did you react?
3. Would people say your life is fueled by a supreme delight in your eternal wealth or on a focus on temporary comfort and acclaim? What areas of your life could better show what you value most?

SONGS

"WE PRAISE YOU"

"GODNESS OF GOD"

"ALL HAIL KING JESUS"

"I AM SET FREE"

Crossing Music Pastor: Dan Gillette (dan@vbc.online)

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$ 23,391.60

WEEKLY NEED: \$ 36,985.00

Y-T-D GIVING: \$ 568,131.80

Y-T-D GENERAL NEED: \$ 628,745.00

ALTAMONT CAMPUS EXPANSION FUND:

{Last Entry – 4/27} \$ 68,122.30

Note: Envelopes for financial gifts, prayer requests, & communication to our church leadership are in the seatback pockets. Please deposit the envelopes in the offering boxes by the exit doors. Thank you!