
THE FLIGHT TO NO WHERE



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**THE LORD IS NOT SLACK CONCERNING HIS
PROMISE, AS SOME COUNT SLACKNESS BUT IS
LONGSUFFERING TOWARD US NOT WILLING THAT
ANY SHOULD PERISH BUT THAT ALL SHOULD
COME TO REPENTANCE.
2 PETER 3:9 (NKJV)**

**ESCALATING EVENTS OF THE END TIMES
(MATT. 24:4-14; MARK 13:5-13; LUKE 21:11).**

DECEPTIONS

SIGNS IN THE HEAVENS

ECONOMIC TURMOIL

SEISMIC ACTIVITIES

POLITICAL CONFLICT

FAMINES & PESTILENCE

FEARFUL SIGHTS

COMMOITONS

ETHNIC CONFLICT

WARS AND RUMORS OF WAR

DISEASES

FALSE PROPHETS

WANING FAITH

**THE PARADOX OF THE
KINGDOM-- A ROP-COM:**

**ROP
(RICHES OF POVERTY)**

**COM
(COMFORT OF MOURNING)**

**MATTHEW 5:1-4
PASTOR NICK LEE
JAN 12, 2025**



FOR THE GRACE OF GOD THAT BRINGS SALVATION HAS APPEARED TO ALL MEN, TEACHING US THAT, DENYING UNGODLINESS AND WORLDLY LUSTS, WE SHOULD LIVE SOBERLY, RIGHTEOUSLY, AND GODLY IN THE PRESENT AGE, LOOKING FOR THE BLESSED HOPE AND GLORIOUS APPEARING OF OUR GREAT GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST.

TITUS 2:11-13 (NKJV)

**PROCLAIMING THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND TEACHING
THE THINGS CONCERNING THE LORD JESUS CHRIST
WITH FULL BOLDNESS AND WITHOUT HINDRANCE.
ACTS 28:31 (HCSB)**

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Righteousness
Beatitudes Merciful
Thirst Earth
Peacemakers Children M
Kingdom Heart Spi
Heaven Clean God Poor
Comforted Hunger Satisfied
Blessed Meek
Persecuted

**THEME: ENTERING THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.
THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT SHOWS US
WHERE WE STAND IN RELATION TO THE
KINGDOM OF GOD AND ETERNAL LIFE.**

**THE FIRST BEATITUDE (V.3) AND LAST (V.10) ALL
DEAL WITH THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN, WHICH
IN HEBREW STYLE WRITING MEANS
EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN DEALS WITH THE
SAME THEME. EACH BEATITUDE BUILDS UPON
THE OTHER.**

**-FIRST 4 BEATITUDES- OUR RELATIONSHIP
WITH GOD.**

**-NEXT FOUR- OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH
OTHERS.**

**GREAT MULTITUDE FOLLOWED
HIM (LISTS ALL THE REGIONS-
EVEN BEYOND THE JORDAN)
MATTHEW 4:25**

**AND SEEING THE MULTITUDES
HE WENT UP ON A MOUNTAIN
AND WHEN HE WAS SEATED HIS
DISCIPLES CAME TO HIM. THEN
HE OPENED HIS MOUTH AND
TAUGHT THEM SAYING
MATTHEW 5:1-2 (NKJV)**



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE BLESSED?

Often translated “Happy” (HOWEVER)

“Jesus is not declaring how people feel. He is making an objective statement of what God thinks of them.”

– John Stott

“To be approved or to find approval.”

**TO BE BLESSED IS TO HAVE AN
AWARENESS OF BEING APPROVED BY
GOD.**

SO VERY
thankful
INCREDBLY
grateful
UNBELIEVABLY
blessed

THE RICHES OF POVERTY

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

Matthew 5:3 (NKJV)



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE POOR IN SPIRIT?



WHAT BEING POOR IN SPIRIT DOES NOT MEAN:

“POVERTY OF SPIRIT IS NOT THE CONVICTION THAT ONE IS OF NO VALUE. IT IS NOT THE ABSENCE OF SELF-WORTH OR AS ONE THEOLOGIAN PUT IT “ONTOLOGICAL INSIGNIFICANCE. IT DOES NOT REQUIRE THAT WE BELIEVE OURSELVES TO BE ZEROS. SUCH AN ATTITUDE IS SIMPLY NOT SCRIPTURAL FOR CHRIST'S DEATH ON OUR BEHALF TEACHES US THAT WE ARE OF GREAT VALUE.”

-PASTOR/AUTHOR KENT HUGHES

POOR IN SPIRIT

GREEK- ***PTOCHOS*** – FROM A VERBAL ROOT
THAT MEANS:

“TO COWER AND CRINGE LIKE A BEGGAR”.

COMMENTATOR: “THE BEGGARLY POOR.”

**CAN WE PICTURE
OURSELVES
AS PEOPLE WITH
NOTHING OF VALUE
TO OFFER GOD?**



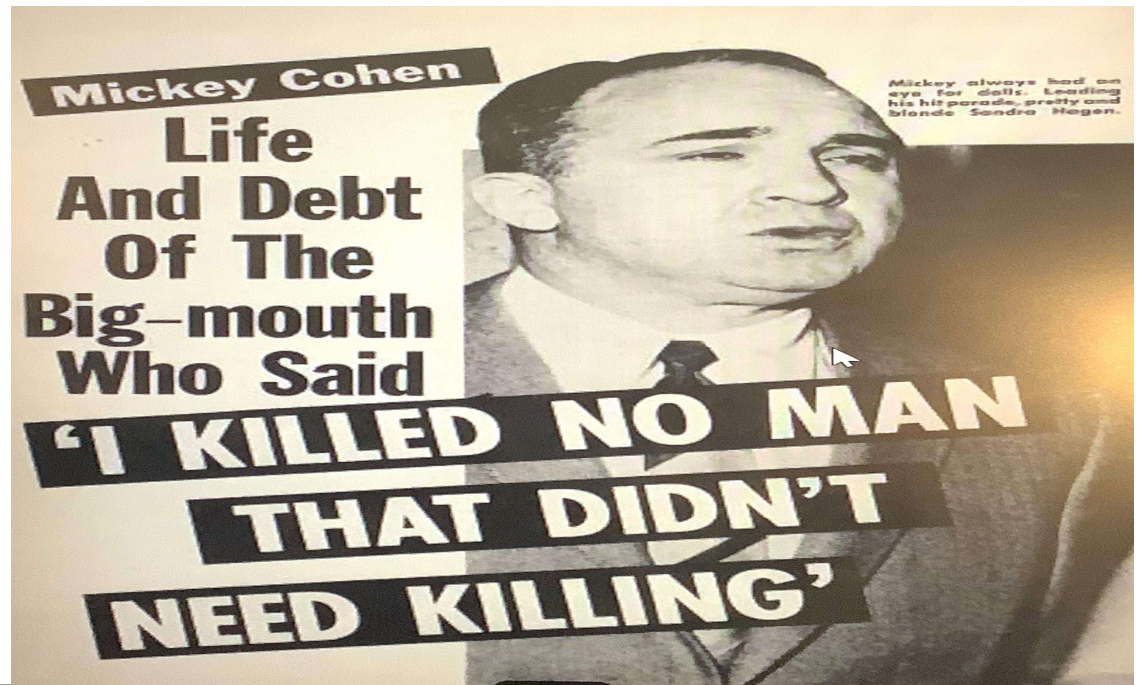
Charles Colson

Loving GOD



"One of the most spiritually satisfying books I have read."
BILLY GRANTAM

A CHRISTIAN GANGSTER? MICKEY COHEN



POOR IN SPIRIT NEEDED TO GROW:

ESSENTIAL TO GROWTH: SCRIPTURAL EXAMPLE OF THE CHURCH OF LAODICEA:

“FOR YOU SAY, I AM RICH, I HAVE PROSPERED, AND I NEED NOTHING NOT REALIZING THAT YOU ARE WRETCHED, PITIABLE, POOR, BLIND AND NAKED. I COUNSEL YOU TO BUY FROM ME GOLD REFINED BY FIRE, SO THAT YOU MAY BE RICH, AND WHITE GARMENTS SO THAT YOU MAY CLOTHE YOURSELF AND THE SHAME OF YOUR NAKEDNESS MAY NOT BE SEEN AND SALVE TO ANOINT YOUR EYES, SO THAT YOU MAY SEE. (REVELATION 3:17-18)

THREE GREAT SINS: SPIRITUAL APATHY, LACK OF REPENTANCE,
AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY.

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AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY.

FOR THEIRS IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN:

“THEIRS- EMPHATIC--- THEIRS ALONE!!

**(EXCLUDES ALL OTHERS THAN THOSE WHO APPROACH GOD WITH A
BEGGARLY SPIRIT).**

-ROYAL PRIESTHOOD (1 PETER 2:9) – “YOU ARE A CHOSEN PEOPLE.”

**AND GOD RAISED US UP WITH CHRIST AND SEATED US WITH HIM IN
THE HEAVENLY REALMS IN CHRIST JESUS.
(EPHESIANS 2:6 NIV).**

**BLESSED (APPROVED OF GOD)
ARE THE (BEGGARLY) POOR IN
SPIRIT FOR THEIRS IS THE
KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
(NOW AND FOREVERMORE).**

THE COMFORT OF MOURNING

Blessed (*Approved*) are those
who mourn, for they shall be
comforted.

Matthew 5:4 (NKJV)



**“THE BEATITUDES ARE NOT THE GOSPEL BECAUSE THEY DO NOT EXPLICITLY EXPLAIN CHRIST’S ATONING DEATH AND RESURRECTION AND HOW ONE MAY RECEIVE HIM. BUT THEY ARE PREPATORY TO THE GOSPEL. THE BEATITUDES ARE PREPATORY IN THE SENSE THAT THEY SLAY US SO THAT WE MAY LIVE. THEY HOLD US AGAINST GOD’S STANDARD FOR THE KINGDOM SO THAT WE CAN SEE OUR NEED AND FLY TO HIM. ... IT EXPOSES THE SHALLOWNESS OF THOSE WHO CAN GIVE ALL THE “RIGHT” ANSWERS BUT DO NOT KNOW CHRIST.
(LAST SENTENCE PARAPHRASED)
–R. KENT HUGHES**



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO MOURN?

WHAT MOURNING DOES NOT MEAN:

**“I’VE BEEN TO CHURCH TODAY AND AM NOT DEPRESSED.”
-ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON (AUTHOR).**

**“THE BIBLE DOES NOT SAY MOURNING ITSELF IS A BLESSED
STATE. SORROW IS NOT BLESSED ANY MORE THAN
LAUGHTER IS.” -D.A. CARSON
(COMMENTARY – SERMON ON THE MOUNT)**



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**“GOOD
GRIEF!”**

**VERB USED FOR MOURNING: MOST INTENSIVE OF THE NINE VERBS
EMPLOYED IN THE NEW TESTAMENT FOR MOURNING, AND IT IS
CONTINUOUS.**

**–FROM BOOK: NO PLACE FOR TRUTH OR WHATEVER HAPPENED TO
EVANGELICAL THEOLOGY**

**“THE ENTIRE LIFE IS TO BE ONE OF CONTINUOUS
REPENTANCE AND CONTRITION.”**

–THE 1ST OF MARTIN LUTHER'S 95 THESES

**THOUGHT: PERPETUAL MOURNING LEADS TO PERPETUAL
REPENTANCE!**

MOURNING: ROMANS 3

**ALL HAVE SINNED AND FALL SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD.
-ROMANS (V.23) (NKJV).**

**SOULS: "NONE IS RIGHTEOUS, NO NOT ONE; NO ONE UNDERSTANDS, NO ONE
SEEKS FOR GOD. ALL HAVE TURNED ASIDE,... (VV.10-12)**

**WORDS: "THEIR THROAT IS AN OPEN GRAVE, ... THEIR MOUTH IS FULL OF
CURSES AND BITTERNESS. (VV.13-14)**

**DEEDS: THEIR FEET ARE SWIFT TO SHED BLOOD; IN THEIR PATHS ARE RUIN
AND MISERY, AND THE WAY OF PEACE THEY HAVE NOT KNOWN. (V.17)**

**MOURNING: BUT NOT JUST OVER OUR OWN SINS-
BUT THE SINS OF THE WORLD.**

**“MY EYES SHED STREAMS OF TEARS, BECAUSE PEOPLE DO NOT
KEEP YOUR LAW.” –PSALM 119:36**

**“SO, THEY SAID, ‘SOME SAY JOHN THE BAPTIST, SOME ELIJAH, OTHERS
JEREMIAH, OR ONE OF THE PROPHETS.’ (MATTHEW 6:14-15).**

“A MERRY HEART, IS GOOD MEDICINE.” (PROVERBS 17:22).

**“MUCH OF OUR CULTURE HAS OVERDOSED ON AMUSEMENT”
-NEIL POSTMAN IN: AMUSING OURSELVES TO DEATH**

THE GREEK WORD HERE FOR "THEY (THEY ALONE) SHALL BE COMFORTED"
PARAKLETHESONTAI (ROOT WHERE WE GET PARACLETE- HOLY SPIRIT).

**WE ARE COMFORTED BECAUSE WE ARE IN RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD
(THE HOLY SPIRIT- COMES ALONGSIDE US AND COMFORT US, GOD'S
COMFORT IS RELATIONAL!!)**

**"TRUE CHRISTIANITY MANIFESTS ITSELF IN WHAT WE CRY OVER AND WHAT
WE LAUGH ABOUT. SO OFTEN WE LAUGH AT THE THINGS THAT WE SHOULD
WEEP OVER AND WEEP OVER THE THINGS WE SHOULD LAUGH AT. IN OUR
HEART OF HEARTS, WHAT DO WE WEEP ABOUT? WHAT DO WE LAUGH
ABOUT? ... FOR THE CHRISTIAN MOURNING OVER SIN IS ESSENTIAL TO
SPIRITUAL HEALTH." -KENT HUGHES**

**BLESSED (APPROVED OF GOD) ARE
THOSE WHO MOURN (OVER SIN-
THEIRS AND OTHERS) FOR THEY
SHALL BE COMFORTED
(IMMEDIATELY AND
CONTINUOUSLY).**
