The Beatitudes

Sermon on the Mount, Lesson 1

By Ron Graham

The Sermon on the Mount is found in Matthew chapter five, six, and seven. Jesus gave this sermon during his main Galilean ministry. In Luke we find a record of some of the other occasions on which Jesus taught the same things. As we study the sermon on the mountainside in Matthew, we will match the verses in Matthew with the similar passages in Luke.

THE BEATITUDES

Matthew 5:1-12 The term "beatitude" means a state of great blessedness, or a saying that expresses that state. Blessedness is more than happiness, since the "hap" in happiness means chance or luck, whereas there is no element of chance or haphazardness in the blessings that come from God. These beatitudes lay down certain conditions in which God will give us his blessing and peace —an abiding joy not subject to the changing fortunes of this world.