

The 7th Beatitude

(Matthew 5:9)

Introduction:

1. Jesus began His great Sermon on the Mount by giving "the Beatitudes" (Matthew 5:3-12).
2. In our lesson we are concentrating on the 7th Beatitude (Matthew 5:9).
3. To help us appreciate the seriousness of this Beatitude, let us first show . . .

Discussion:

- I. HOW "PEACE" AND "CONFLICT" ARE CONTRASTED IN THE BIBLE
 - A. We learn from Psalm 133 how God feels about "peace."
 - B. We learn from Proverbs 6:16-19 how God feels about "conflict."
 - C. When we consider this contrast, perhaps we can more fully appreciate why . . .
- II. THE NEW TESTAMENT REPEATEDLY TEACHES US TO PURSUE "PEACE"
 - A. Romans 12:18
 - B. Romans 14:19
 - C. 1 Thessalonians 5:13b
 - D. Hebrews 12:14
 - E. To help us understand what is involved in pursuing peace, let us look at . . .
- III. TWO BIBLE CHARACTERS WHO WERE PEACEMAKERS
 - A. Abraham was a peacemaker (Genesis 13:7-9).
 - B. Isaac was a peacemaker (Genesis 26:17-22).
- IV. THE NEW TESTAMENT CONTAINS SOME SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS THAT WILL HELP US TO BE PEACEMAKERS
 - A. Ephesians 4:1-3
 - B. Philippians 2:1-4
 - C. Colossians 3:12-13
 - D. James 3:13-18
 - E. 1 Peter 3:10-11

Conclusion:

1. Being a peacemaker is not always easy -- it can sometimes be quite challenging, especially in our world today.
2. However, those who make peace will receive a great blessing -- *"they shall be called the children of God."*