

Are you tired enough?

Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs shall be the Kingdom of Heaven.

Most people believe these words to be about poor downtrodden people who cannot fend for themselves—that someday they will be paid back for their unjust suffering. It often gives the reader a desperate feeling, however, because they are left with the impression that God has less interest or compassion for those who are not so pitiful. Most imagine themselves to be quite above the level of meek, mournful and poor in spirit.

Let us not forget this beatitude either:

Blessed are those who suffer persecution for justice sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven

The speaker said on many occasions that we are all children of God and we can all get to Heaven. So why the sudden shift in philosophy, leaving it to the pitiful mourners and the poor in spirit?

There is an entirely different view that one can take of each of these verses, which I now put forth.

What if the speaker meant that *all* people suffer, are persecuted, and are poor in spirit, but only those who recognize it will be able to see the other side? In that case a criminal who has suffered long enough and wants to turn his life around, may indeed reap rewards that one who denies he or she has any suffering at all may ever find.

If a person gets to the point of mourning their life and wanting to change, doesn't it make sense that they will have a more open mind to see and understand the Kingdom?

And as for anyone who believes they are strong in spirit, they simply do not understand the relative nature of Spirituality. Spiritual growth never ends, so no matter how far one has traveled the path, they still have a very long way to go. A wise person knows that they are always poor in spirit compared to what they could be.

You may have thought this path was *not* for the weak and I tell you—that is exactly who its for.

So I ask, are you tired?

Here is your life:

Out of Control—you do nothing of your own accord; you are a prisoner of people and circumstances. All another person has to do is *approve* of you or DIS *approve* of you and you are immobilized—your mind is theirs to do with it as they like. It really is that easy for them—don't you see that? How much energy do you waste worrying about what others think and what they might do to you?

You are ruled and driven by getting new things, a new job, a new man or woman, a new philosophy, a new identity. You are never happy with what you have, not for long anyway, always wanting more. You sense it's wrong, so you think of a million justifications for wanting things. You lose your senses as you try to claim what you think is deservedly yours. You will see anyone who gets in the way, be it intentional or not, as your foe.

Your mood is entirely ruled by outside circumstances. You feel good when something good happens and bad when something bad happens. And the worst part is that the *something* doesn't even have to be real—just something you *think* is real. Your mood is not even attached to real circumstances; it is actually attached to your daydreams—the Ego's view of circumstances.

Distorted—You see everything in the world from the obstructed vantage point of YOU. You judge everything you experience—how it compares to you, how it helps you, how it hurts you, how it pleases you, and on and on. You have no idea what anything looks like in Reality because you can't see it past YOU. You filter it to satisfy you.

You, however, can't even get that right. You attempt to filter everything to your advantage, but your feelings get in the way. When you feel bad, everything looks bad; when you feel good, you create grandiose hopes and dreams. These feelings fool you even when the opposite is true. Then, in an instant, with new information, just a morsel I say, it all turns upside down. Can you deny this is you?

Limited—if you acquired everything you could possibly *want*, it would not fill one thimble compared to what God has to give. You spend ninety-nine cents for every penny you gain, as one great teacher puts it. You use your energy inefficiently because it is aimed at selfish needs.

Your knowledge is just as limited. Even if you acquired all of the practical knowledge you could, it would be like a raindrop compared to the ocean of Truth's Knowledge. The reason is that practical knowledge comes and goes and is not accompanied by deep understanding like True Knowledge is. True understanding never leaves you. God's unlimited Knowledge teaches you how to learn more. Practical Knowledge prides itself in what it knows and among other selfish things, protects itself.

Stressful—your need to please and/or impress the world directly or indirectly puts the weight of ten thousand elephants on your back. You carry the burden, which you have taken up completely on your own accord, without the slightest idea of how it hurts you. You trade one stress for another that is twice the load, but you don't see it. Then when

not acknowledged properly, or at all, you lash out either mentally or practically at those who have spurned you. You contaminate your mind with revenge and then you cannot think straight. While this goes on, you convince yourself it isn't true at all.

Anxious—you are crippled with fear save a few moments of elation that happen throughout your day. You fear the lack of motion, the lack of contact with others, the lack of good luck. You fear not being relevant. You fear, ironically, all of the things you've brought upon yourself. In your best moment, you try to convince yourself that others have it worse and you should be happy.

You should be happy, but not in that way.

Let me express a spiritual truth. If you do not change how you see, you will always see everything the same way. Put another way, if you do not change *you*, your view of the world will always be as *you* presently see it. How can you continue to act the same and expect to magically get better results? Ask yourself why you are still seeking the answer, why your attempts to change bring no new results, and why your efforts fade so quickly.

It is because you haven't really changed a thing—that is why. You look *not* for a new life, but a new way to validate the one you have. Your unwillingness to change is proof of this.

So I ask again, are you tired? Enough?

Are you tired enough to change how you see? Will you at first be daring and do something new and different? I hope you will. It only takes an ounce of sincere willingness. As a matter of fact, a sincere willingness to simply be willing is worth a thousand times more than a mechanical willingness to *try* anything. Try as you might, without sincerity this will fade like all of the other attempts.

You cannot be strong and intelligent in the way you have been if you want to walk this path. It takes a spiritual strength and intelligence to do it. Those are found in the opposite of the conditioned human meanings of the words.

You will know you are ready when you can honestly say:

“I will withstand the storm,” and

“I see that I know nothing of any real importance.”

These are real breakthroughs.