

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN KINGDOMTIDE

August 21, 2022

THE HOW OF HAPPINESS

8 PRINCIPLES FOR POWERFUL LIVING

“HAPPY ARE THE PEACEMAKERS”

Scripture: St. Matthew & the Epistle to the Romans (CEB)

St. Matthew 5:1-9

¹ Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up a mountain. He sat down and his disciples came to him. ² He taught them, saying:

³ “Happy are people who are hopeless, because the kingdom of heaven is theirs.”

⁴ “Happy are people who grieve, because they will be made glad.”

⁵ “Happy are people who are humble, because they will inherit the earth.”

⁶ “Happy are people who are hungry and thirsty for righteousness, because they will be fed until they are full.”

⁷ “Happy are people who show mercy, because they will receive mercy.”

⁸ “Happy are people who have pure hearts, because they will see God.”

⁹ “Happy are people who make peace, because they will be called God’s children.”

Romans 12: 15-21

¹⁵ Be happy with those who are happy, and cry with those who are crying.

¹⁶ Consider everyone as equal, and don’t think that you’re better than anyone else. Instead, associate with people who have no status. Don’t think that you’re so smart. ¹⁷ Don’t pay back anyone for their evil actions with evil actions, but show respect for what everyone else believes is good. ¹⁸ If possible, to the best of your ability, live at peace with all people. ¹⁹ Don’t try to get revenge for yourselves, my dear friends, but leave room for God’s wrath. It is written, *Revenge belongs to me; I will pay it back, says the Lord.* ²⁰ Instead, *If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink. By doing this, you will pile burning coals of fire upon his head.* ²¹ Don’t be defeated by evil, but defeat evil with good.

~ SERMON NOTES ~

Through the years, biblical scholars have approached this seventh principle of true happiness – “*Happy are people who make peace, because they will be called God’s children*” – from three different directions, expressed in these three ways:

1)Peacemakers are B _____ B _____.

One of God’s greatest attributes is compassion. God sees our shortcomings and wrongdoings, yet with amazing patience, God keeps on forgiving us, loving us, and encouraging us.

2)Peacemakers are B _____ B _____.

Peacemaking is not a project to accomplish. It is a passion live out in daily life, making a positive difference in the people we come in contact with each day.

3)Peacemakers are B _____ B _____.

When we spend enough quality time with Christ, we become the children of God. Modeling the Prince of Peace, we become peacemakers.

