

Counting the Cost of being a Disciple (Part 2)

Isaiah 29:13

¹³ The Lord says:

*"These people come near to me with their mouth
and honor me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me.
Their worship of me
is made up only of rules taught by men.*

Luke 9:62

⁶² Jesus replied, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

Matthew 5:1-12

The Beatitudes

¹ Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ² and he began to teach them saying:

³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 18:1-4

The Greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven

¹ At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" ² He called a little child and had him stand among them. ³ And he said: "I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Therefore, whoever **humbles himself** like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 23:1-12

¹Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples: ²"The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. ³So you must obey them and do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for **they do not practice what they preach.**

⁴They tie up heavy loads and put them on men's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them.

⁵"Everything they do is done for men to see: They make their phylacteries wide and the tassels on their garments long; ⁶they love the place of honor at banquets and the most important seats in the synagogues; ⁷they love to be greeted in the marketplaces and to have men call them 'Rabbi.'

⁸"But you are not to be called 'Rabbi,' for you have only one Master and you are all brothers ⁹And do not call anyone on earth 'father,' for you have one Father, and he is in heaven. ¹⁰Nor are you to be called 'teacher,' for you have one Teacher, the Christ ¹¹**The greatest among you will be your servant.** ¹²For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever **humbles himself** will be exalted.

Philippians 2:3-4 (Paul's exhortation to the Philippian Church)

³Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in **humility** consider others better than yourselves. ⁴Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Back to **Matthew 5** and **The Beatitudes**

⁴Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

⁵Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

⁶Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

⁷*Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.*

⁸*Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.*

⁹*Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called sons of God.*

Here “sons” is the Greek word *huios*. This is the same word that is used in Romans 8 and is future:

Romans 8:19

¹⁹*The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed.*

Revelation 21:7

⁷*He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son.*

- All three of these verses refer to a future occurrence.
- “Sons” refers to those who will rule and reign with Christ in his coming kingdom.
- We can say that we are “children” of God when we are redeemed.

An example of this is in 1 John:

1 John 3:1

¹*How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.*

The Greek word for “children” here is: *teknon*.

Both these terms: *teknon* (children) and *huios* (sons) are not synonymous.

Back to **The Beatitudes**:

¹⁰*Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

¹¹*"Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds
of evil against you because of me. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, because great is your
reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were
before you.*

Romans 8:16-18

¹⁶*The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. ¹⁷Now if we
are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, **if** indeed we
share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.*

2 Timothy 2:11-12

¹¹*Here is a trustworthy saying:*

*If we died with him,
we will also live with him;*

¹²*if we endure,
we will also reign with him.*

*If we disown him,
he will also disown us;*

Romans 8:18

¹⁸*I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.*

Revelation 3:21

²¹*To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne.*

Matthew 13:43

⁴³*Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.*