

Comparison of the Beatitudes with the letter of James

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Beatitude/Lessons	Matthew 5	James
Poor of the world	“Blessed <i>are</i> the poor in spirit! For theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.” (Matt 5:3)	“Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He has promised to those who love Him?” (James 2:5)
The meek/humble	“Blessed <i>are</i> the meek! For they shall inherit the earth.” (Matt 5:5)	“Be humbled before the Lord, and He will lift you up.” (James 4:10)
Be merciful	“Blessed <i>are</i> the merciful! For they shall obtain mercy.” (Matt 5:7)	“For he who has shown no mercy shall have judgment without mercy, and mercy exults over judgment.” (James 2:13)
Peacemakers	“Blessed <i>are</i> the peacemakers! For they shall be called the sons of God.” (Matt 5:9)	“And <i>the</i> fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.” (James 3:18)
Trials for church members	“Blessed are you when <i>men</i> shall revile you and persecute <i>you</i> , and shall say all kinds of evil against you falsely, for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for your reward in Heaven <i>is</i> great. For so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” (Matt 5:11-12)	“My brothers, count <i>it</i> all joy when you fall into different kinds of temptations” (James 1:2)
Persecution of the prophets	“Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for your reward in	“My brothers, take the prophets who have spoken

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	Heaven <i>is</i> great. For so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” (Matt 5:12)	in the name of <i>the</i> Lord, <i>for</i> an example of suffering ill, and of patience.” (James 5:10)
Keeping the entirety of the Law	“Therefore whoever shall relax one of these commandments, the least, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of Heaven. But whoever shall do and teach <i>them</i> , the same shall be called great in the kingdom of Heaven.” (Matt 5:19)	“For whoever shall keep the whole Law and yet offend in one <i>point</i> , he is guilty of all.” (James 2:10)
Be slow to become angry	“But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be liable to the judgment. And whoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be liable to the sanhedrin; but whoever shall say, Fool! shall be liable <i>to be thrown</i> into the fire of hell.” (Matt 5:22)	“Therefore, my beloved brothers, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath. For the wrath of man does not work out <i>the</i> righteousness of God.” (James 1:19-20)
Swearing oaths	“But I say to you, Do not swear at all! Not by Heaven, because it is God’s throne; not by the earth, for it is the footstool of His feet; not by Jerusalem, because it is <i>the</i> city of the great King; nor shall you swear by your head, because you cannot make one hair white or black. But let your word be, Yes, yes; No, no. For whatever is more than these comes from evil.” (Matt 5:34-37)	“But before all things, my brothers, do not swear; neither by the heaven nor by the earth, nor any other oath. But let your yes be yes, and <i>your</i> no, no, lest you fall into condemnation.” (James 5:12)
Perfection	“Therefore be perfect, even as your Father in Heaven is perfect” (Matt 5:48)	“But let patience have its perfect work, so that you may be perfect and entire, lacking nothing.” (James 1:4)

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Store up true treasures	<p>“Do not lay up treasures on earth for yourselves, where moth and rust corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal.</p> <p>But lay up treasures in Heaven for yourselves, where neither moth nor rust corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal.” (Matt 6:20-21)</p>	<p>“Your riches have rotted, and your clothes have become moth-eaten.</p> <p>Your gold and silver have corroded, and their poison will be a witness against you, and will eat your flesh as fire. You heaped treasure in the last days.” (James 5:2-3)</p>
God vs worldliness	<p>“No one can serve two masters. For either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will hold to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.” (Matt 6:24)</p>	<p>“Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that the friendship of the world is enmity <i>with</i> God? Therefore whoever desires to be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.” (James 4:4)</p>
Not judging or condemnig	<p>“Judge not, that you may not be judged.” (Matt 7:1)</p>	<p>“Do not grudge against one another, brothers, lest you be condemned. Behold, <i>the</i> Judge stands before the door. (James 5:9)</p>
Ask God for your needs	<p>“Ask and it shall be given to you; seek and you shall find; knock and it shall be opened to you.” (Matt 7:7)</p>	<p>“But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, <i>who</i> gives to all liberally and with no reproach, and it shall be given to him.” (James 1:5)</p>
Fruits reveal one	<p>“You shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thorns, or figs from thistles?” (Matt 7:16)</p>	<p>“Can the fig tree, my brothers, bear olive berries; or a vine, figs? So no fountain <i>can</i> yield both salt water and fresh.” (James 3:12)</p>
Doer of His words	<p>“Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on a rock.” (Matt 7:24)</p>	<p>“But become doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.” (James 1:22)</p>

History Research Projects

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