

1 **Blessed are the Placemakers**

- Typos of biblical proportions . . .

2 **Sermon on the Mount**

- Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them, saying: (Matt 5:1–2 NIV)
- “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.” (Matt 5:3–5 NIV)

3 **Sermon on the Mount**

- “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.” (Matt 5:6–7 NIV)
- “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” (Matt 5:8–10 NIV)

4 **Sermon on the Mount**

- “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.” (Matt 5:11 NIV)
- “Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” (Matt 5:12 NIV)

5 **Typos**

- A typo is a typographical error.
- When you run across them in your daily reading, they are no big deal.
- But when the errors occur in Holy Scripture, then you have a problem of biblical proportions.

6 **Typo Examples**

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8 **Typo Examples in the Bible**

- “Thou shalt commit adultery” is what one Bible said. That mistake in the 20th chapter of Exodus could have started a sexual revolution.
- “Know ye not that the unrighteous shall inherit the kingdom of God.” The unrighteousness lobby certainly liked the sound of that one.
- “Go and sin on more,” said Jesus in John 8:11. Well, to be honest, Jesus said, “Go and sin no more,” but the printer was looking for a loophole.

9 **Typo Examples in the Bible**

- “Let the children first be killed.” Must have been written by a frustrated parent. What Jesus really said in Mark 7:25 is “Let the children first be filled.”
- And in Matthew 5:9, part of today’s passage of Scripture, we hear, “Blessed are the placemakers.”
- What Jesus actually said was “Blessed are the peacemakers,” but a proofreader failed to catch the typo.

10 **Peachtree Editorial Services**

- Fortunately for us today, the Peachtree Editorial and Proofreading Service is working hard to catch and correct such biblical blunders.
- According to the Associated Press (July 3, 2004), this company is dedicated to proofreading Bibles and making sure that such misprints never make it into your Scripture reading.

11 **Peachtree Editorial Services**

- With an ordinary book, you can put up with more mistakes “because it’s not something you’re basing your whole life on,” says June Gunden, who founded the company along with her husband Doug.
- “It’s information, but it’s not really life-changing information.”
- With the Bible, however, people expect perfection.

12 **Typos and Non-Typos**

- Just think of the problems that would have arisen if the Gundens had not caught several errors in the most recent edition of the Bible.
 - The phrase “our ancestors” would have been “sour ancestors.”
 - Instead of condemning “factions,” the Bible would have called for an end to “fractions.”
- What’s so shocking about today’s passage from Matthew is that it sounds like it is full of typos — even when it is completely accurate.
- When you read this stuff, it is so counter-intuitive that you figure that there must be a misprint here.

13 **Kingdom truths**

- Let us take for instance the phrase, “Blessed are the meek.”
 - This is not a typo but a kingdom truth.
 - Along with “Blessed are the poor in spirit” and “Blessed are the those who mourn,” they are stating and making declarations.
 - They are not commandments or are they a prescription on how to live and act as the Lord’s disciples.
 - Instead, they are statements of what is true about those in whom God calls.

14 **Kingdom Values**

- Even though these truths may be counterintuitive realities, they are Kingdom values nevertheless.

- God values those who are not stubborn or stiff-necked, He values those who are complaint, submissive, and meek. For these kind of people will do God's will and be blessed.
- God values those who are not arrogant or blind to their faults and sins. Instead he values those who are able to see their short-comings and need for God's mercy and forgiveness.
- God values those who show remorse and grieve for things that have hurt others and grieved His Holy Spirit. He honors their mourning and will bless them with His comfort.

15 Kingdom Values

- God also values those who hunger and thirst for righteousness.
- In other words, God blesses those who don't settle for mediocrity, but have a hunger in them not just for spiritual excellence, but of the kind that manifests itself in righteousness.
- The Pharisees excelled in what the Apostle Paul termed, "legalistic or ceremonial righteousness." (Phil. 3:6) However, this is not the kind of righteousness that the Lord values.
- The Bible describes the righteousness that the Lord prefers best in Micah 6:8, To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. (Mic 6:8 NIV)

16 Kingdom Values

- God values those who also show mercy.
- In fact, these people receive what they give—mercy.
- Jesus also says it like this, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." (Luke 6:38 NIV)
- If you look at the context of Luke 6:38, you'll notice that the context is giving mercy. In other words, if we give mercy—even to our enemies, we will receive mercy ourselves.
- Not just a little bit, but a whole lot.

17 Kingdom Values

- Now this doesn't mean, we don't uphold justice or sit back and take abuse. But if someone sins against us, we should not hold on to resentment and unforgiveness.
- This could lead to bitterness, which according to Hebrews would, . . . cause trouble and defile many. (Heb 12:15 NIV)
- We should give it to the Lord, who sees and knows everything and place those matters in his hands.
- We should always seek reconciliation with our enemies and pray that our relationships can be restored.
- If they are willing, we should be willing as well and so be reconciled.

18 Kingdom Values

- According to John's Gospel, When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, "Here is a true Israelite, in whom there is nothing false." (John 1:47 NIV)
- Jesus said, "You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You shall see greater things than that." He then added, "I tell you the truth, you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man." (John 1:50–51 NIV)
- This is a perfect example of someone who is blessed because he has a "pure heart."
- Since, his heart was sincere he will not only see God, but heaven open and the activity of angels on behalf of the Son of God.

19 Kingdom Values

- Someone who is sincere is wholehearted, genuine, real, true, and honest.
- He or she is unhypocritical, straightforward, upfront, on the level, on the up and up.
- In fact, etymology of the word comes from the Latin and means "without wax."
- During Roman times, pottery and other clay objects were often filled with wax to hide their faults. So customers would inquire to their sincerity.
- Interesting enough, the truth would always be revealed once heat would be applied. The wax would melt and the quality of the item would be made known.
- In the same way, a person's character is always manifested during times of trials as well.

20 Kingdom Values

- No doubt, many Christians have been persecuted simply because they call themselves Christians and identify with Jesus Christ.
- But sometimes Christians are persecuted because of the righteous lives they live.
- The Apostle Paul tells us, In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. (2 Tim 3:12–13 NIV)
- Nevertheless, when this happens, we will be blessed.
- According to Jesus' own words, when people insult us and falsely say all kinds of evil things against us, we should rejoice and be glad for GREAT will our reward be in heaven. [See Matt. 5:11-12]

21 Kingdom Values

- Some people here tonight, might not realize it, but you are blessed for you already embody the values of God's Kingdom.
- You are already meek, mournful, sorrowful, spiritually hungry, merciful, sincere, and are peacemakers.
 - To you is God's Kingdom.
 - To you is comfort from God.

- You will indeed inherit the earth.
- You will be filled with God’s righteousness and faithfulness.
- You will see God.
- You will be called sons/daughters of God.
- Yours is the Kingdom of Heaven.

22 Summary

- “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the LORD. “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. (Is 55:8–9 NIV)
- The world doesn’t value the humble, meek, and those who genuinely want to do what is right and good.
- Instead they value the talented, powerful, and those who seem to be important.
- God values those who fear him and with a sincere heart want to do His will.
- They will not only be blessed in their coming and going, but GREATLY in the age to come.

23 Conclusion

- In the epistle of James, the apostle asks his readers this question:
 - Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. (James 3:13 NIV)
 - . . . the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness. (James 3:17–18 NIV)
- This is not a typo either.
- So then, let us continue to embody the values of God’s Kingdom, for the man or woman of God does have a destiny and an inheritance that words cannot fully describe. AMEN!

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