Acts 20:35

1

SUBJECT: The First
Beatitude

01/99

THE LOST BEATITUDE

Paul's last words to the Ephesian elders before kneeling down to pray. Well known among the early Christians, "remember..." although omitted by the 4 gospel writers. cf. Jn 21:25 cf. the oral law, = the Talmud. Ancient capacity for remembrance phenomenal. Thousands pages.

Jn 2: 24, 25. Jesus knew the human heart? Knew, it is blessed to receive.
   a gift.
   a remembrance.
   Encouragement, appreciation.

Jesus also knew the deeper, inner spirit. "More blessed to give."
① cf. the girl in receiving the gift.
   the boy in pleasuring, providing, bestowing..

② cf. Norman Rockwell cover. Sat Eve Post. little boy, dog, rain or mud. beautiful carpet. girl of stairs, a valentine for mother.

②(a) Bro. Dolph Johnson. "Do you know what impressed me most about your trip? you giving away your clothes around the world." Both typical — gift, receipt. we — call Japan in November. Things they gave me — but now what I could do for them. After all, do not reap as much as we think.

④(a) Africa, little naked boy sent clothes from S. to b. clothes. Returned so proudly. Had on a pair of suspenders!

(1) Whom the greater blessing? The men who received from the hands of the disciples the bread and the meat, or the boy who gave to the master all that he had of the 5 loaves and the 2 fishes? Wide eyed - astonished - had lunch? Jn 6:9

(2) " " " " ? The rich young ruler who turned away from Christ with his great possessions, or Zacchaeus who laid himself and all that he had at the master's feet?

(3) " " fuller life? The well-to-do dropping into the temple treasury coins of gold out of their superabundance, or the poor widow who gave all her living, depending upon God for daily bread?

(4) " " " " ? Lucifer, son of the morning, created archangel of light, proud, possessive, arrogant, haughty, contemptuous - or the Lord of Hosts who emptied himself... Paul "remember" again I Cor. 8:9 "poor that we rich"
Matt 20:28 "but to minister.."

Our spirit, attitude, in the church.
For the people to seek us out? Pamper, pet, praise, flatter us -?
Or for us to seek the people out. Shake their hands, smile at them, love, pray for, help, encourage them. Mt 20:28

You are your church.
Speaking for God, for the people of God, for the little body of Christ.
We need you.

_ Your help in giving. ___ MISSIONARY, BENEVOLENT, DENOMINATIONAL
1. Our stewardship program { 51% — missions, Home missions — church work, schools, hospitals, orphans — } 12,000.00 each Sunday
                             { — the ministry of our own church }
                             { 49% }
                             { LOCAL
                             of PUBLIC EDUCATION. THIS AS IMPORTANT? }

2. Our building fund. 3,000.00 each Sunday.
   years of Korean war could not
   the privilege to have them.
   God doth gives us the plan. An assigned task, a divine way.
   For centuries, church fin over battle with, worries about.
   — sale of indulgences, bazaars, pie box suppers, dinners, carnivals, quilts
                            old clothes sale ... raffles

   God's way. I Cor. 16:2   Lord's day   always
                             Each one   Tithe unnamed.   first
                             Proportionately.   Proverbs
                                                                 Prophet Mal. 3:10
                                                                 Jesus approved
                                                                 Mat. 23:23

_ But most, we need you, yourself. God needs you.
  II Cor. 8:5
  (a) Chickasha, my first pastorate out of Seminary.   Dr. Mitchell
                                                        Sat'd Austin
                                                        State Senator.

     your life in the church and its ministry.
  (b) The blind couple, their baby daughter. Pat, Mrs Jack Ogg. They
  left with the baby, really to me. He, dark room & ray at Baylor,
  wanted to come. Sat with car at 6 points, ... both blind, could not.
  Jack Ogg, picks them up. Last Sunday, to dinner. Oh, what a
  wonderful time!

     So was the church. But V. O. R.A. ... giving of self.

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THE LOST BEATITUDE

Paul's last word to Ephesian elders, before breakdown ...
"Remember ..." — well known to each ...
John 21:25
transient capacity for remembrance

1. Seen so frequently in Scripture

(1) Feeding the five thousand:
the people who received the bread, fish
the little boy who gave his lunch, 5 fishes

(2) The rich young ruler ... possessions
Zacchaeus, ...

(3) The rich & their abundance
the poor widow, 2 mites

(4) Lucifer, son of the morning ...
the Lamb / Him   II Cor. 8:9
Matt 20:28

2. Seen no less poignant in our life

(1) Keeping all for self
Ecl. 5:13
" " " "
poems " " "

"Carve your name life o'er the dizzy road
where the stop [...] roads off [...] lely
all you can add is your cold dead road
to what you here [...] already"

(2) The blessing of giving

(a) George Carroll Science Hall, Baylor.
Bequeath. Not all. "That is all I have left."

(b) "Lay my life [...] on treasures in heaven"
Ans! By sending [...] fight who are [...] down
there making us the [...]. & there you sell ... as there"

(c) Man asked, "what you do last week?"
money a co. taught [...] name is C[...]. P.M. [...] is [...]
Tues. - [...] in the Rio [...] Valley...
Wed. - operated on a man in Egypt, Czechoslov, Nigeria
Thurs. - preached gospel in Curaçao, [...], Brazil
Fri. - helped build a clinic in [...] Philippines"
Sat. - [...] & [...] - Japan"
Sun. - distributed Bibles in So. Korea."   for the college
[...]..".   no good some may to [...]

3. Infinite reward for it all. "Ridiculous so long? [...]
[...] lady [...] too. But so able by 7 men."

01/29

"There is a sore evil which I have seen under the sun, namely, riches kept for the owners thereof to their hurt." Eccles. 5:13

Mammon...
　　even in heaven his looks & thoughts
Were always downward bent,
The riches of Heaven's pavement,
　　　　admiring more
　　　　　　trodden gold,
Than ought divine ... the vision beatific.
　　　　　— John Milton, Paradise Lost

8. Ivan Kruger, head of the world's greatest monopoly, died a suicide.

9. Leon Fraser, president of the Bank of International Settlements, died a suicide.

That man may last, but never lives,
Who much receives, but nothing gives;
Whom none can ~~love~~, whom none can
                                    thank,
Creation's blot, creation's blank.

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