

THE BLESSEDNESS OF SPIRITUAL HUNGER
(Matthew 5:6)

- I. The MEANING of Spiritual Hunger
 - A. Focused on what is NECESSARY
 - 1. For LIFE
 - 2. For HEALTH
 - B. Includes INTENSE longing
 - 1. Will find appetizing ONLY what GOD PROVIDES
 - 2. Will strive to acquire ALL that GOD PROVIDES

- II. The OBJECT of Spiritual Hunger
 - A. Initial JUSTIFICATION by the application of CHRIST'S righteousness for SALVATION
 - 1. Acquiring admission into the KINGDOM
 - 2. Craving God's GIFT of a righteousness NOT YOUR OWN
 - B. Perpetual GROWTH in PERSONAL righteousness through SANCTIFICATION
 - 1. Cannot be FULLY realized in THIS LIFE

2. Requires CONSTANT longing to be MORE righteous
- C. Ultimate EXPERIENCE of PERFECT righteousness in GLORIFICATION
1. Where our OWN righteousness is made PERFECT
 2. Where CHRIST'S righteousness is fully realized in the demonstration of perfect JUSTICE

III. The EVIDENCE of Spiritual Hunger

- A. Cease being SATISFIED with SELF
- B. Cease being DEPENDENT on EXTERNAL THINGS for satisfaction
1. Includes REJECTION of EVIL activities as harmful
 2. Includes DEVALUING of GOOD activities as insufficient
- C. Craving for GOD'S WORD
- D. Finding PLEASURE in the things of GOD
1. Takes comfort in the CHASTENING of God (Heb. 12:6)
 2. Make choices that might appear humanly DISASTROUS
- E. Embracing ALL of God's INSTRUCTION and PROVISION

IV. The RESULT of Spiritual Hunger

- A. Will find it SATISFYING in THIS LIFE
- B. Will be fully SATISFIED in the ETERNAL KINGDOM