

Flourishing in the kingdom

Context in Matthew

“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (3:1; 4:17)

- The king
- The kingdom
- At hand
- Repent!

“Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:” (5:1–2)

OT context

Audience

“Blessed”

First and eighth beatitude: “...for theirs is the kingdom of heaven”

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” (5:3)

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” (5:10)

Second to seventh beatitude: “...for they shall...”

“Blessed are those who mourn...

...for they shall be comforted.” (5:4)

“Blessed are the meek...

...for they shall inherit the earth.” (5:5)

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness...

...for they shall be satisfied.” (5:6)

“Blessed are the merciful...

...for they shall receive mercy.” (5:7)

“Blessed are the pure in heart...

...for they shall see God.” (5:8)

“Blessed are the peacemakers...

...for they shall be called sons of God.” (5:9)

The king of the kingdom

Recommended reading: Dane Ortlund, *Gentle and Lowly*