

Jesus will now show us His government: it's an upside-down kingdom.

- I. An Unprecedented King (v.12-19)
 - i. He **includes** His subjects
 - ii. He **associates** with His subjects
 - iii. He **serves** His subjects
- II. An Unprecedented Population (v.12-19)
 - i. A zealot (Simon) and a tax collector (Matthew)
 - ii. *Jews* (Judea and Jerusalem) and *Gentiles* (Tyre and Sidon)
 - iii. All needy and desperate
 - iv. None who are “middle class in spirit” live in this kingdom. (Timothy Keller)
- III. Unprecedented Power (v.19)
 - i. **Spiritual** power—not military, political, economic or cultural power
 - ii. **Unstoppable** power—“healed them ALL”
 - iii. **Confirming** power—you should listen to a Man who can do these things
 - iv. :
- IV. Unprecedented Values (v.20-26)
 - i. Natural horrors are signs of everlasting triumph—“The Beatitudes”
 - ii. Natural triumphs are signs of everlasting horror—“The Woes”
 - iii.
- V. Unprecedented Love (v.27-31)
 1. If someone hates you, do concrete actions that will benefit that person.
 2. If someone curses you, talk about that person like a dear friend.
 3. If someone abuses you, ask the Lord to treat that person with mercy.
 4. If someone insults you, leave the lines of communication wide open.
 5. If someone steals from you, give that person *more* than they originally wanted.
 6. If someone asks for your money, open your hand until his need is gone.

Deut. 15:7-8: “If among you, one of your brothers should become poor, in any of your towns within your land that the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not harden your heart or shut your hand against your poor brother, but you shall open your hand to him and lend him sufficient for his need, whatever it may be.

2 Cor. 8:9: For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

- Our resources are for God and others now. Our **resources** are **not** the **reward**.
- Our **reward is the relationship** with God that motivates such giving.

VI. Unprecedented Reward

- i. Our reward is to gain more of God Himself.
- ii. This relationship brings us glory, fullness, victory, joy, and permanent treasure. :

Applications

1. Let the woes of your life lead you to the Blessing God
2. Receive Christ's eternal riches freely==faith
3. Embrace the temporary woes of living in a foreign kingdom
4. Place no hope in a rotting kingdom
5. No longer view your resources as your reward
6. Make a personal relationship with God your daily reward
7. Pour out your power, position, and resources to meet the needs around you
8. Take delight **now** in the certainty of **future** triumph