HAPPINESS is the meaning and the “purpose” of life; the whole aim and end of human existence.”

“AHPPINESS depends upon ourselves.”

Aristotle

HAPPINESS Is A Choice.
We will choose to be HAPPY.

It is the “WILL” of God For His children…
believers in the Lord Jesus Christ … to 
be HAPPY.
Proverbs 3:13; John 13:16,17
I Peter 3:13-15

Aristotle, the ancient Greek philosopher and theologian, said that “Excellence or virtue is a settled disposition of the mind that determines our choice of actions and emotions.” We, therefore, can choose those “happenings” in our lives which contribute to or subtract from our happiness. Whereas “JOY” depends on Jesus; “HAPPINESS” depends on happenings. What you choose to happen in your life can alter your actions and emotions.

In this Sermon on the Mount, Jesus gives a blueprint one would follow to live a happy, peaceful and prosperous life. It is the best known of all the teaching of Jesus, and perhaps the least understood and certainly the least obeyed. It is His own description of what He wanted His followers to be and to do. Though Jesus delivered this sermon more than 2000 years ago, His message is timeless. It is today the same as it was then, and will
be the same tomorrow as it is now. Jesus, our Christ, never changes. If He spoke it then, it continues to live today.

**Leviticus 18:1-4**
This is what God said to the children of Israel soon after He had rescued them from their Egyptian slavery and made them His special people by covenant: “I am the Lord, your God. You shall not do as they did in the land of Egypt, where you dwelt, and you shall not do as they do in the land of Canaan, to which I am bringing you. You shall not walk in their statutes. You shall do my ordinances and keep my statutes and walk in them. I am the Lord your God.”

**Psalm 106:35**
**Jeremiah 10:1,2; Ezekiel 20:7**

The Sermon on the Mount is at the beginning of the public ministry of Jesus. Immediately after His baptism and temptation He began to announce that the Kingdom of God, long promised in the Old Testament era, was now on the thresh hold. He, Himself, had come to inaugurate it.

**Matthew 4:17, 23**
The Sermon on the Mount portrays the repentance (complete change of mind) and the righteousness (relationship with Jesus Christ) which belong to the Kingdom of God. It describes what human life and human community look like when they come under the gracious rule of God.

Jesus emphasized that His true Followers, the citizens of God’s Kingdom were to be different from others. They were not to take their cue from the people around them, but from Him, which would prove that they are children of their Heavenly Father. They were to shine like lights in the prevailing darkness.

Just as God’s word to Israel in the Old Testament, “You shall not do as they do,” so is God’s word to us today. It is the same “call” to be different.

**Verse 1 – Jesus saw the multitude.**
He saw our condition; our struggles; our flesh and blood; our inability to redeem ourselves and reconcile with God. He saw us.
In this study we will note that the same plight of man which God saw and was subsequently seen by Jesus is seen even today.

**He saw and sees**

1) Pretense in our piety
2) Hypocrisy in our righteousness
3) Grumbling in our giving
4) Play-acting in our praise
5) Superficiality in our service
6) Phoniness in our practice
7) Disparity between what we say and what we do
8) Professing one thing and practicing another thing

**Went up into a mountain** –

an elevated place denoting His royal authority as the Prince of Preachers. The name of the mountain is not given to suggest that the location of from which the gospel is preached doesn’t matter. As long as the heart is pure and the motive is right – the Word of God can be proclaimed by the “called” of god and received by the people of God.

**Verse 2 – He taught them** –

Jesus knew the people needed the Word.

The farther we drift from the Word of God, the more disastrous are our consequences. The Word of God is still the answer to man’s problems.

**Matthew 4:4; 4:7; 4:10**

_It is written_

The first word Jesus said upon beginning His Sermon was “**Blessed**” which mean “**HAPPY.**”

**Choose To Be Happy**