THE CONSTITUTION OF THE KINGDOM

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: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Matthew 5:1-12 (ESV)

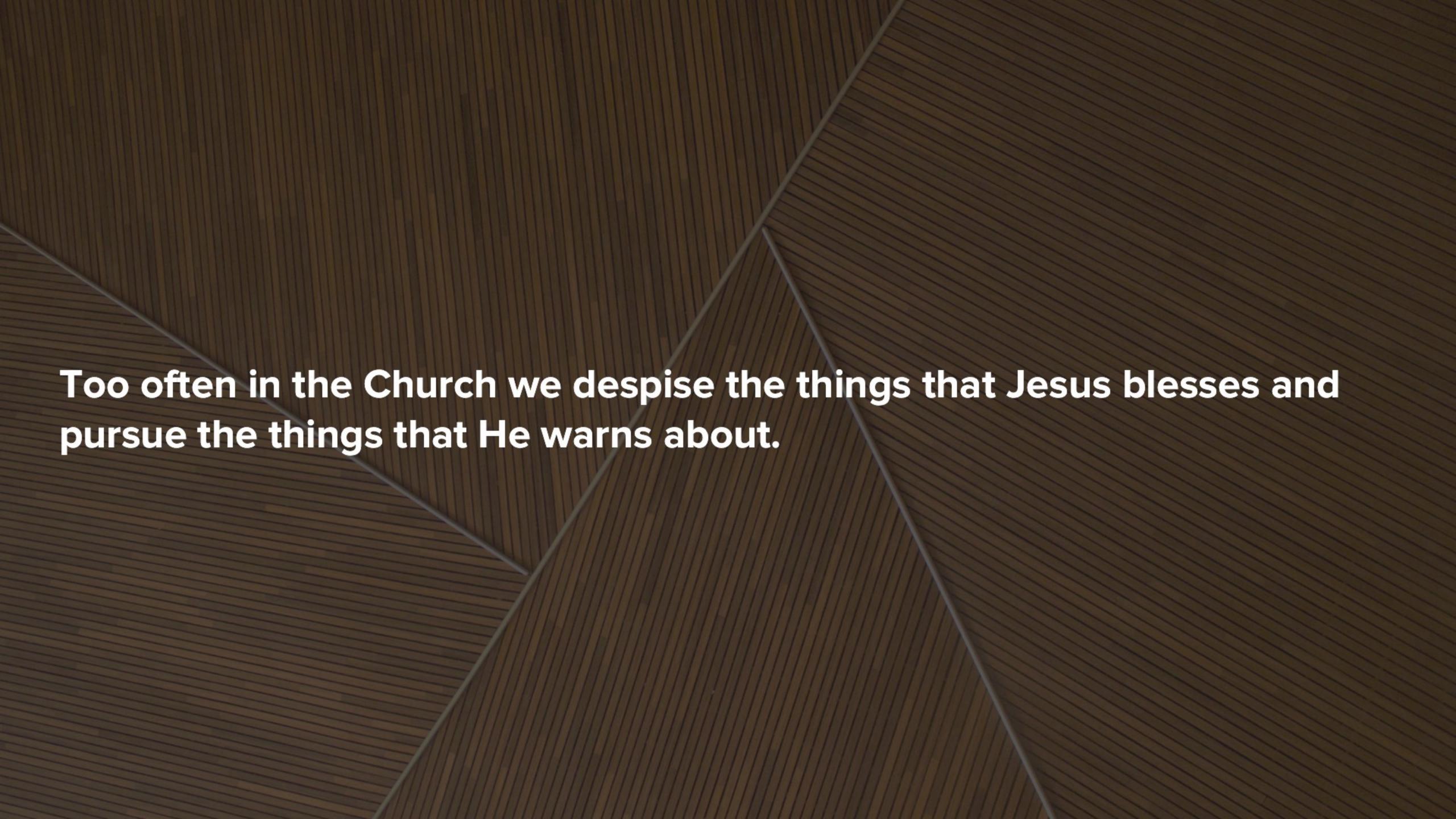
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.
"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. "Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Matthew 5:1-12 (ESV)

THESE PRINCIPLES ARE RADICALLY DIFFERENT FROM THE WORLD

Jesus was not dropping nice quips, He was dropping grenades on the dominant world-views of His day:

- 1. Jews
- 2. Romans
- 3. Greeks



THESE PRINCIPLES PROVIDE A PATHWAY TO GENUINE BLESSING

"Blessed" is the joy and contentment that comes from living under the full favor of God. It is true happiness.

THESE PRINCIPLES ARE A CONNECTED CHAIN, NOT ISOLATED CHARACTERISTICS

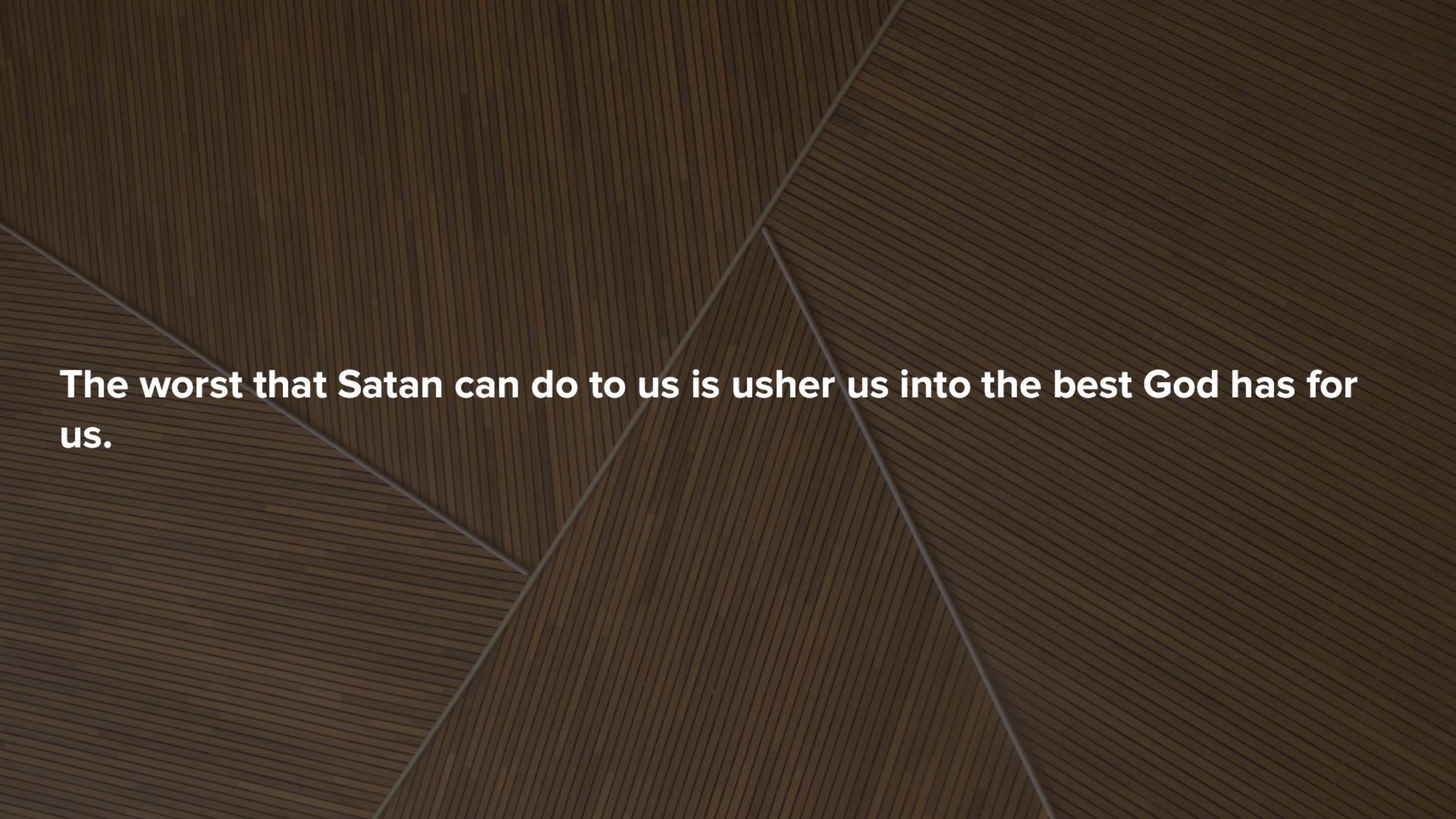
If we want to experience the fullness of God's work in our life, we enter at the front gate, and one leads to the next.

THESE PRINCIPLES WORK FROM THE INSIDE OUT

These are the unnatural, spiritual qualities brought into our life through the power of the Holy Spirit and flow forth from within.

THESE PRINCIPLES ARE DESIGNED FOR OUR GOOD AND GOD'S GLORY

Jesus preached the Sermon on the Mount so that we could actually know the reality of the things our hearts truly desire and so His Father would get the glory for the way His disciples live.





WHAT IS YOUR PRAYER FOR THE KINGDOM?

- 1. A Prayer That This Gospel Will be Preached to the Whole World:
 "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world...and then the end will come." Matthew 24:14
- **2. A Prayer of Surrender to the Kingdom Principles:** "Thy Kingdom come." Matthew 6:10
- 3. A Prayer to Enter the Kingdom: "Lord, remember me when you come into your Kingdom." Luke 23:42