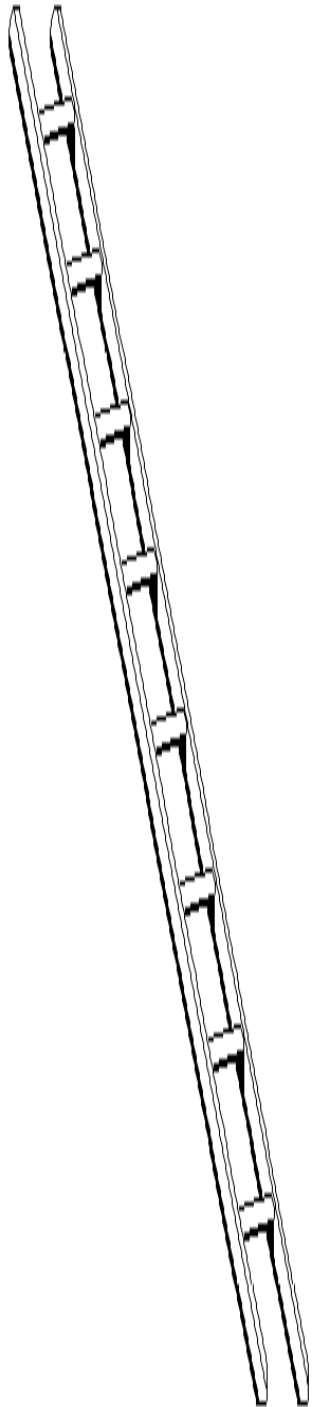


## BEATITUDES



8) The world cannot appreciate those traits of character which the Lord delights in, hence its opposition and spite. Be it ours to endure hardness as good soldiers of Jesus, never for a moment flinching from **cross-bearing** for Jesus' sake.

7) This is a high attainment, and follows upon purity: "first pure, then peaceable." He who reaches it shall have clear evidence of his adoption into God's household. May each one of us **try** to be a peacemaker in the family, in the church, and in the world.

6) Sin puts out our eyes. When the heart is pure, the **spiritual eye** grows bright, and the pure and holy Lord reveals himself.

5) They do good, and get good. Being filled with righteousness, they are empty of all malice, and are **loving** to others, and so win their love. God will show no mercy to those who are unmerciful to their fellow men.

4) **Pining** for more holiness, they press forward towards it, and reach it, while the self-satisfied miss it by self-conceit. The Lord will be sure to fill us if we long after the best things.

3) Men who are repentant cannot be proud; hence the next blessing is to the gentle in spirit. These **enjoy** what they have, and, being **content** with the divine will, they possess by birthright both this world and worlds to come.

2) To their sense of need is now added holy **sorrow** for sin; this leads them to Jesus, and he consoles them.

1) The first step of the ladder is low, and therefore the more readily reached. It begins where the law ends. The law reveals our poverty, and Jesus removes it. Men who know their **spiritual poverty** are the only ones who by faith can lay hold upon the true riches of grace.

The whole seven rise one above another like the steps of a ladder of light, and the blessings appropriate to each grow out of the virtues described.

C. H. Spurgeon

# Celestial Octave of Benediction

## Virtue Described / Appropriate Blessing

8) Persecuted for Righteousness' Sake      Kingdom of Heaven & Great Reward

7) Peacemakers      Called Children of God

6) Pure in Heart      See God

5) Merciful      Obtain Mercy

4) Hunger and Thirst After Righteousness      Filled

3) Meek      Inherit the Earth

2) They that Mourn      Comforted

1) Poor in spirit      Kingdom of Heaven

