

## Radical Red Letters - Kingdom Living in a Chaotic Land

### Sermon / September 10,13

- ☞ Intro yourself
- ☞ How did you find the church?
- ☞ What are you excited about being in this Group this season?

*Chaos—a situation in which everything is confused and in a mess (Macmillan Dictionary)*

- ☞ Do you agree with the above definition? Why or why not?

#### ☞ Read out loud

*“When Jesus saw the crowds, He went up on the mountain; and after He sat down, His disciples came to Him. He opened His mouth and began to teach 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 gentle, 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. “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. “Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” —Matthew 5:1-12*

- ☞ What stands out to you in the verse above?

#### ☞ Read out loud

*“One of the tragedies to befall our nation and other nations is this: Christians have lost their distinctiveness. Because they have...society as a whole has lost the Christian voice. As a result, society has lost its salt, its guiding light. It has lost its city set on a hill, the example that Jesus said Christians were to be. Perhaps the way to national revival is not to try to superimpose upon a lost society principles that they will never be able to accept. Rather, the way to national revival is to get Christians once again to begin to adhere to the social, moral, and ethical standards set forth in the Sermon on the Mount, the norm for Christian experience in the midst of a lost society.”—Stuart Briscoe (Now for Something Totally Different, p.12)*

- ☞ What do you think about the quote from Stuart Briscoe?

### I. Jesus was aware of the chaos

*“Jesus saw the crowds...” (v.1a)*

*“Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness among the people. The news about Him spread throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all who were ill, those suffering with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, paralytics; and He healed them.”—Matthew 4:23-24*

*“Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd.”—Matthew 9:36*

👉 How do you think Jesus feels about what he is seeing in the world right now?

## II. JESUS WAS DESPERATE FOR THE FATHER

*"...He went up on the mountain" (v.1b)*

👉 How do you get away from the 'crowds' in order to listen to His voice?

*"One of the great uses of Twitter and Facebook will be to prove at the Last Day that prayerlessness was not from lack of time."—John Piper (Tweet from @johnpiper October 20, 2009)*

## III. JESUS CALLED HIS FOLLOWERS TO A RADICAL WAY OF LIFE

*"He opened His mouth and began to teach them..." (v.2)*

*"The Beatitudes are a description of how God's kingdom enters man's realm and transforms it. The Beatitudes are a picture of what God's people, under His rule and reign of grace, live like on earth. They are the ethos of heaven invading earth."—Derwin Gray (The Good Life, p.10)*

*"For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ."—Philippians 3:20*

👉 Read out loud

*"We all have our own picture of what it looks like to be a Christian—certain behaviors that fit and certain ones that do not, or certain attitudes that we ought to possess to be a Christian in our particular culture. Perhaps that means being of a particular political persuasion, aligning ourselves with certain groups within the Christian subculture, and so on...yet for us in our day, Jesus repaints the picture. Better, Jesus has already painted the picture, and it's for succeeding generations to make sure their conception of the Christian life matches the one painted on the Galilean hillside long, long ago."—David Platt (Christ Centered Exposition: Matthew, p.91)*

👉 What are you needing Jesus to do in you this next season?

*"Now the names of the twelve apostles are these: The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; and James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed Him."—Matthew 10:2-4*

*Tweet from Derwin Gray: Out of the chaos and dysfunction of American Christianity, God the Holy Spirit is raising up a "love your enemies, justice-seeking, Pro-All of life, multiethnic missionary community of disciples. Like a rose growing through the concrete. And she will be beautiful. (@derwinlgray 9/5/20)*

👉 What spoke to you in this message, verses or quotes from the authors?

👉 Share prayer requests