



THE **GOSPEL** OF MATTHEW

Sermon on the Mount

**A Definition of the
Life of the Lord Jesus Christ**

Sermon on the Mount

For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:20



Blessed are the poor in spirit,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:3 New King James Version



What does it mean to be
Poor in Spirit?



HOLLYWOODLAND

GANGSTER SQUAD

buzz

buzz

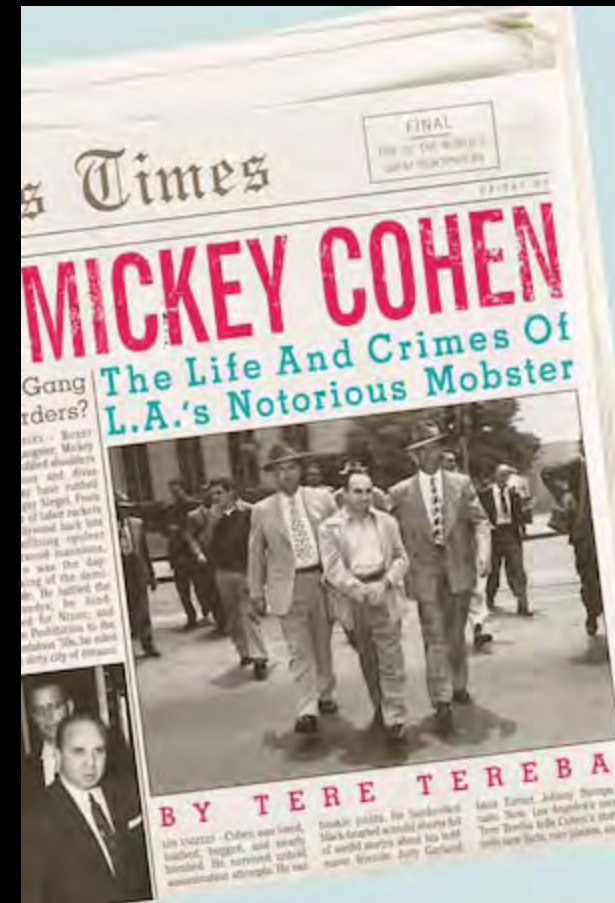
Mickey Cohen

- Boxer
- Gangster



Mickey Cohen

- Boxer
- Gangster
- Illegal activities



Mickey Cohen

- 1957 Billy Graham
- No life change
- “His response:
“We have Christian football players, Christian cowboys, Christian politicians; why not a Christian gangster?”



Mickey Cohen

- He never experienced the truth of the passage found in the Sermon on the Mount, in the first Beatitude.



Mickey Cohen

- **Walked away from the church and teaching of the Lord Jesus.**
- **Number of people today who in church but never experienced the first beatitude.**



The Beatitudes

**Character of people who are living in the
Kingdom of Heaven**

**Not the Character of people living in the
Kingdoms of Man**

**8 Statements stand in contrast to the
Kingdoms of Man**



Blessed are the poor in spirit

**Blessed are the poor in spirit
For theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven**

Matthew 5:3



Blessed are the poor in spirit

What does “Blessed” mean?



Blessed are the poor in spirit

Blessed means the approval of God

**With that comes happiness and joy and
contentment and satisfaction**



Blessed are the poor in spirit

Do you want the approval of God?



Blessed are the poor in spirit

Poor in Spirit

Not low self-worth

Wimps, flunkers of personality tests not sought



Blessed are the poor in spirit

Poor in Spirit

Not financially poor

**Slum dwellers and homeless merit no special
favor with God.**



Blessed are the poor in spirit

Poor in Spirit

**Two Greek words for poor
Here = beggar**

SPIRITUAL BANKRUPTCY



Blessed are the poor in spirit

Poor in Spirit

**Opposite of
Pride & Self-Righteousness**



Blessed are the poor in spirit

Poor in Spirit

**Essential for Blessing
To be born again: John 14:6**



Blessed are the poor in spirit

Poor in Spirit

Essential for Blessing

To be grow in grace: Revelation 3:17-18



Story of Jesus

Luke 18

Illustrated in story of Jesus

Luke 18:9-14



Story of Jesus

Luke 18





Story of Jesus

Luke 18





Blessed are the poor in spirit

Poor in Spirit

Need everyday

Utter lack of confidence to live for God

Opposite of being self sufficient



Blessed are the poor in spirit

Poor in Spirit

Spiritually Bankrupted

My Story



Blessed are the poor in spirit

Poor in Spirit

Cannot make it without His help



Blessed are the poor in spirit

Poor in Spirit

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:8-9



Blessed are the poor in spirit

Poor in Spirit

...not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit

Titus 3:5



Blessed are the poor in spirit

Poor in Spirit

Cannot make it without His help



Blessed are the poor in spirit

Poor in Spirit

Theirs is the Kingdom of God



Blessed are the poor in spirit

Blessed (approved by God) are the (beggarly) poor in spirit (spiritual matters) for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven (both now and forevermore).



Blessed are the poor in spirit

Poor in Spirit

Kingdom of God

Vs.

Kingdoms of Man



Blessed are the poor in spirit,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:3 New King James Version