

STUDY GUIDE  
for  
*The Beatitudes*  
A VIDEO LECTURE SERIES

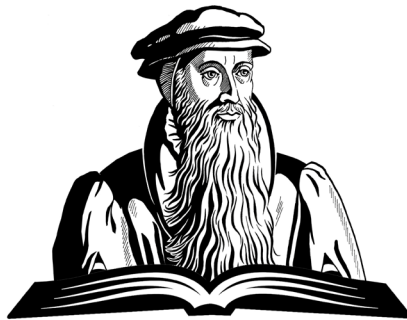
*by Rev. A. T. Vergunst*

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Lecture #9

*Blessed Are the Peacemakers*

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**The John Knox Institute**  
of Higher Education

*Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide*

**John Knox Institute of Higher Education**

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version.

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Rev. A. T. Vergunst is minister of the Gospel at the Reformed Congregation of Carterton, New Zealand, a congregation of the Reformed Congregations of New Zealand.

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STUDY GUIDE FOR  
*The Beatitudes*

10 Lectures

*by Rev. A. T. Vergunst*

1. A General Introduction to the Sermon on the Mount
2. A General Introduction to the Beatitudes
3. Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit
4. Blessed Are They That Mourn
5. Blessed Are the Meek
6. Blessed Are They Which Do Hunger and Thirst After Righteousness
7. Blessed Are the Merciful
8. Blessed Are the Pure in Heart
9. Blessed Are the Peacemakers
10. Blessed Are They Which Are Persecuted for Righteousness' Sake



STUDY GUIDE FOR  
*The Beatitudes*

by Rev. A. T. Vergunst

Lecture #9

**Blessed Are the Peacemakers**

**Scripture Text**

*“Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.”—Matthew 5, verse 9*

**Key Points**

1. Jesus’ teachings are the opposite of what the natural man believes. In the Beatitudes, he exalts the humble, the grieved, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, and now the peacemaker.
2. The nature of the peacemaker.
  - a. Regenerated, transformed into the image of the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - b. The Lord Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace.
  - c. God himself is the foremost peacemaker. He gave his Son to reconcile man.
  - d. Making this peace includes spiritual warfare.
3. Who is the peacemaker.
  - a. Not a peace-lover who tolerates offense against God.
  - b. God himself is the supreme peacemaker, and he will not tolerate sin.
  - c. God’s people promote and secure peace, if at all possible, living at peace with all men, but never without confronting sins that harm genuine peace.
4. Biblical peace is a condition of perfect harmony between God and man.
  - a. Not just the absence of war and discord among men.
5. Peacemakers engage in spiritual warfare against sin and Satan.
  - a. Their goal is not war or power.
  - b. Their goal is harmony with God and fellow men.
6. Above all, peacemakers are those who seek to lead people to Jesus Christ.
  - a. Meek and humble, willing to give much to win the other person’s heart.

- b. They show great tolerance of the faults and failures of others.
7. Dignity of the peacemaker: “They shall be called the children of God.”
- a. God owns the peacemakers and calls them his children.
  - b. And if children, then heirs to the kingdom of God.
8. If a professing believer is not a peacemaker at all, then their profession of faith is false.
9. Even if the characteristics of these Beatitudes is only weak, be comforted and give thanks. We will not be made perfect in this life.

**Review Questions**

1. In what ways are Jesus’ teachings in the New Testament entirely opposite to how people think naturally? What does this say about the natural state of people?

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2. What was the state of man as God created him before the fall? What is the born-again Christian like? How are they similar?

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3. Isaiah chapter 9, verse 6 called the Lord Jesus Christ “The Prince of Peace.” How does he perform this office? What peace does Jesus restore?

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4. Can we say that peacemakers are merely people who love peace? Please explain.

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5. What is the biblical concept of peace, as Rev. Vergunst describes it in the lecture?

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6. Name some of the characteristics of true peacemakers.

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7. How is leading men and women to the Lord Jesus Christ essential in the life of a peacemaker?

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8. What does Jesus mean when he says, “they shall be called the children of God”? Who will call them this? What is the significance of this promise?

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9. Thomas Watson is quoted in the lecture as saying, “Let men either lay down their contentions with their neighbors or lay down the coat of their profession to be a Christian.” What did he mean by this?

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10. Will the born-again believer perfectly reflect all of the characteristics shown in the Beatitudes in this life? What will be their spiritual experience in this?

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**Personal Applications**

1. Can a natural man or woman learn to be a peacemaker outside of Christ? What needs to happen to them before they can truly be a peacemaker?

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2. The Apostle Paul was shown in this lecture to be a good example of this Beatitude. Please explain some of the ways in which he served and lived as a peacemaker.

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