

The Beatitudes of Bahá'u'lláh



In the Lawh-i-Aqdas – Bahá'u'lláh speaks primarily to those familiar with the teachings of Jesus Christ. He concludes this message with twenty-one beatitudes. These, obviously evoke the beatitudes of Jesus and the sermon on the mount, and there are many similarities. But there is also a different resonance. When Jesus spoke two thousand years ago he prepares his followers – those who truly arose to a Christian life – for suffering – counselling his followers to see beyond the external realities of an illusory world.

Although Bahá'ulláh also draws attention to persecution in his path and his call is also one to arise to a spiritual life, the primary note of his beatitudes is one of rejoicing. It is the time of fulfilment. It is the time of the Kingdom. When Abdu'l Baha visited Paris in 1911, he spoke in terms such as these.

May your eyes be opened to see the signs of the Kingdom of God, and may your ears be unstopped so that you may hear with a perfect understanding the Heavenly Proclamation sounding in your midst.[1]

Blessed the slumberer who is awakened by My Breeze.

Blessed the lifeless one who is quickened through My reviving breaths.

Blessed the eye that is solaced by gazing at My beauty.

*Blessed the wayfarer who directeth his steps towards the Tabernacle of My
glory and majesty.*

*Blessed the distressed one who seeketh refuge beneath the shadow of My
canopy.*

*Blessed the sore athirst who hasteneth to the soft-flowing waters of My
loving-kindness.*

*Blessed the insatiate soul who casteth away his selfish desires for love of
Me and taketh his place at the banquet table which I have sent down from the
heaven of divine bounty for My chosen ones.*

*Blessed the abased one who layeth fast hold on the cord of My glory; and the
needy one who entereth beneath the shadow of the Tabernacle of My wealth.*

*Blessed the ignorant one who seeketh the fountain of My knowledge; and the
heedless one who cleaveth to the cord of My remembrance.*

*Blessed the soul that hath been raised to life through My quickening breath
and hath gained admittance into My heavenly Kingdom.*

*Blessed the man whom the sweet savors of reunion with Me have stirred and
caused to draw nigh unto the Dayspring of My Revelation.*

*Blessed the ear that hath heard and the tongue that hath borne witness and
the eye that hath seen and recognized the Lord Himself, in His great glory
and majesty, invested with grandeur and dominion.*

Blessed are they that have attained His presence.

Blessed the man who hath sought enlightenment from the Daystar of My Word.

Blessed he who hath attired his head with the diadem of My love.

*Blessed is he who hath heard of My grief and hath arisen to aid Me among My
people.*

Blessed is he who hath laid down his life in My path and hath borne manifold

hardships for the sake of My name.

Blessed the man who, assured of My Word, hath arisen from among the dead to celebrate My praise.

Blessed is he that hath been enraptured by My wondrous melodies and hath rent the veils asunder through the potency of My might.

Blessed is he who hath remained faithful to My Covenant, and whom the things of the world have not kept back from attaining My Court of holiness.

Blessed is the man who hath detached himself from all else but Me, hath soared in the atmosphere of My love, hath gained admittance into My Kingdom, gazed upon My realms of glory, quaffed the living waters of My bounty, hath drunk his fill from the heavenly river of My loving providence, acquainted himself with My Cause, apprehended that which I concealed within the treasury of My Words, and hath shone forth from the horizon of divine knowledge engaged in My praise and glorification. Verily, he is of Me. Upon him rest My mercy, My loving-kindness, My bounty and My glory.

(This article is the 183rd in a series of what I hope will be 200 articles in 200 days for the 200th anniversary of the birth of Bahá'u'lláh. The anniversary is being celebrated around the world on 21 and 22 October 2017, The articles are simply my personal reflections on Bahá'u'lláh's life and work. Any errors or inadequacies in these articles are solely my responsibility.)

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