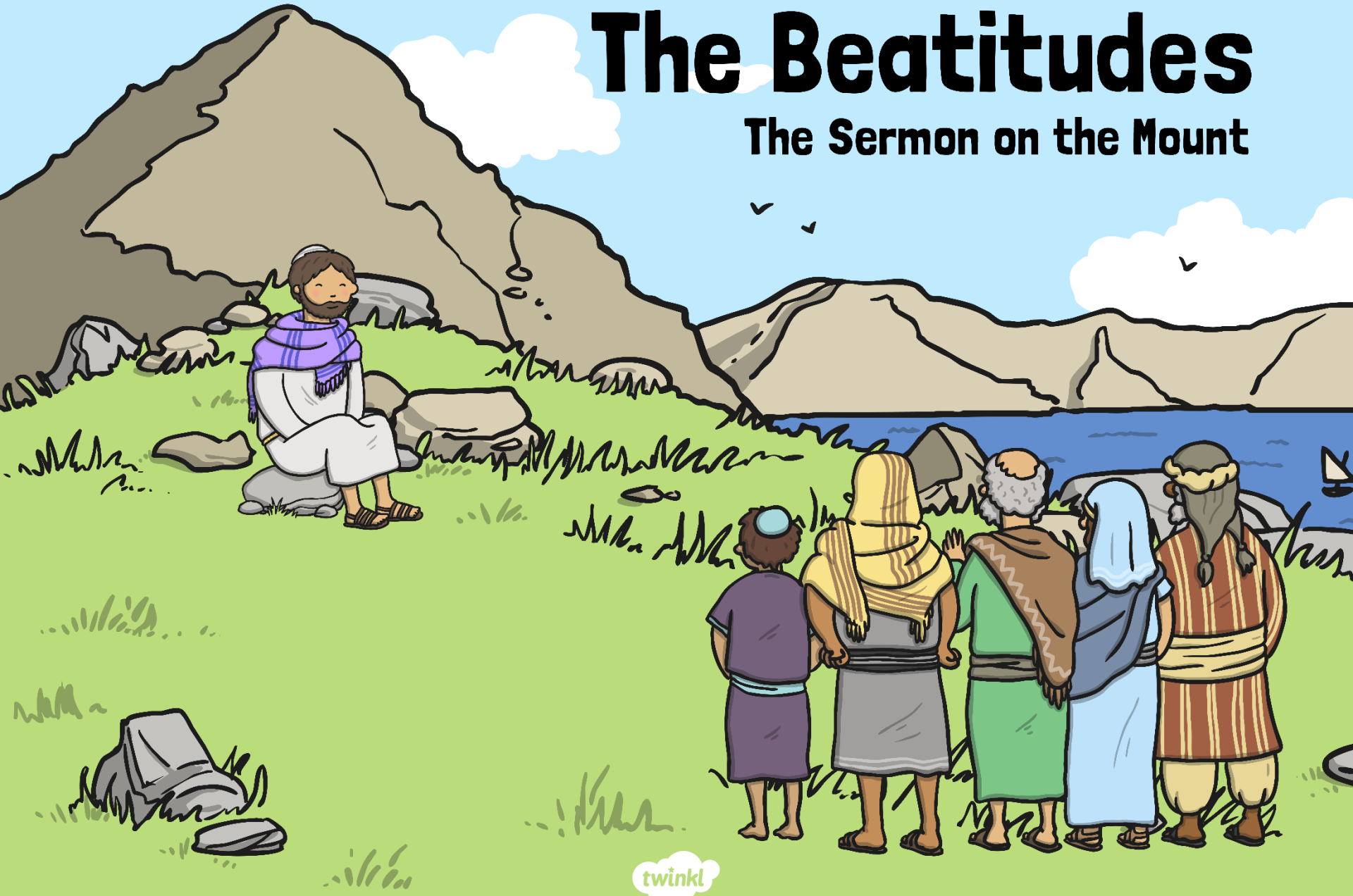


The Beatitudes

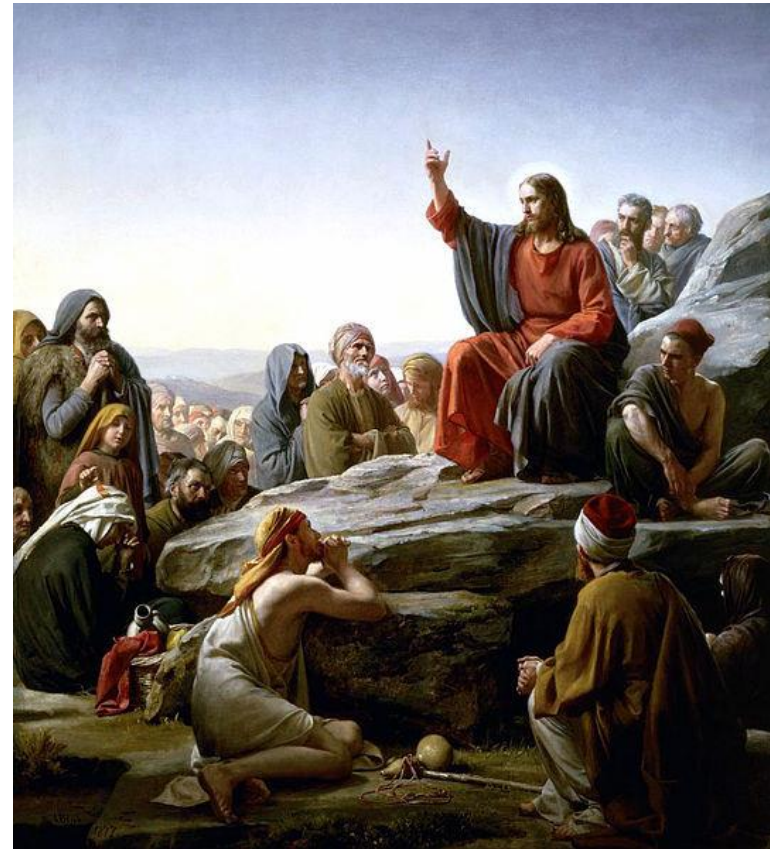
The Sermon on the Mount



The Beatitudes are a set of teachings by Jesus. They are intended to guide your behaviour.

Whenever He spoke, a large crowd usually gathered. More and more people began to listen to Jesus. One day, Jesus took His disciples to a quiet mountainside. He sat down and began to teach. There are two versions of beatitudes – one recorded in the Gospel of Matthew, and another, in the Gospel of Luke.

The two versions have major differences, like the time and places they were recorded at.



The Sermon On the Mount by Carl Heinrich Bloch, Danish painter, d. 1890

Matthew says that Jesus went up on a mountain side and sat down. That is why we call the sermon the 'Sermon on the Mount'. It was common in Jesus' day for teachers and rabbis to teach sitting down. Teachers sat because they often taught for extended periods of time. Today, teaching in church is usually done standing up.



The Church of the Beatitudes, located in Israel, on a small hill overlooking the Sea of Galilee, is built on the traditional site of Jesus' delivery of the 'Sermon on the Mount'.

The First Beatitude

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

This means you admit your weaknesses
and you are not to consider yourself better than everyone else
because of your strengths.

The Second Beatitude

Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted.

That means that when you see someone being sad, you should
mourn with them, and that way not be selfish.

The Third Beatitude

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit
the earth.

Being meek means to be a friendly person, who doesn't use verbal
or physical violence to get what they want.

Meek people are peaceful, friendly
and comfortable with who they are.

The Fourth Beatitude

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

This means that people who are willing to stand up for their friends and what is right are loyal and brave.

The Fifth Beatitude

Blessed are the merciful,
for they should obtain mercy.

This means be merciful (kind and compassionate) to others in order
to receive the same in return.

The Sixth Beatitude

Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they shall see God.

This means that people that are pure in heart are committed to others. They tell the truth, being honest and trustworthy people. As Jesus Christ was pure when he died on the cross, people who follow this blessing are also committed to their goal, or another person.

The Seventh Beatitude

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall
be called the children of God.

Peacemakers not only live peaceful lives but also try to bring peace and friendship to others, and to preserve peace between God and man.

The Eighth Beatitude

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

This beatitude tells us that when we do the right things, we should not give up, even when others persecute us for doing it.

The Eight Beatitudes

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

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

