

Call to Worship

“May we shout for joy over your salvation, and in the name of our God set up our banners! May the Lord fulfill all your petitions; Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.” (Psalm 20: 5 & 7)

Matthew 5:6

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Righteousness

→ Righteousness contains both implications and applications as a doctrine:

1. First, it requires that we recognize that we are sinners;
2. Second, to be righteous means that we have been saved by grace;
3. Thirdly, the desire for righteousness comes from two things:
 - a. A desire to be free from sin;
 - b. Right standing before God

Appetite

→ To hunger and thirst for righteousness means for our desires to be fully satisfied in Christ;

→ Those who do not hunger and thirst for righteousness lack Christ:

1. Pride (self-righteousness)
2. Aesthetics (outward appearance)
3. Attention (reaction from others)

→ To hunger and thirst is a conscious awareness of our need; an awareness that we lack Christ; apart from Him our desires will never be filled or satisfied—no matter how “noble.”

→ Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness bring nothing but their appetite to the table;

→ Satisfaction in Christ is accomplished only by being made new in Christ

Satisfied Immediately

→ The promise of the gospel is that if you confess and repent of your sin, Jesus is faithful to forgive you IMMEDIATELY (*1 John 1:9*);

→ Forgiveness IMMEDIATELY leads to redemption; the new creation;

→ Redemption IMMEDIATELY changes our status to righteous;

→ Righteousness IMMEDIATELY satisfies our hunger and thirst;

Benediction

“And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so by pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.” (Philippians 1:9-11)