

Beatitudes for the Wearry Christian

by Katie Cook

Joyful are those who know they are helpless,
For they rely on God,
And God's eternal Commonwealth is theirs.

Joyful are those who know sorrow and pain,
For peace and quiet joy will be theirs;
Gentle certainty will be theirs;
And strength will come to them
in abundance.

Joyful are those who do not tread on others,
Those whose words and deeds are gentle,
For they will be one with the new earth.

Joyful are those whose hearts break,
and whose spirits groan, for justice
in this world,
For they will see the great realm of peace
and justice,
And their quest will be accomplished,
And their dream will come true.

Joyful are those who respond to others
in need,
Who do not remember past wrongs,
For God will forget their wrongs
And respond to their needs.

Joyful are those whose hearts and minds
thirst for one thing,
And that is to walk in God's way
And to live in God's truth,
No matter how high the toll;
For they will bask in God's love.

Joyful are those who work for peace,
For they are God's children;
God is their Father, who provides for them,
And their Mother, who nurtures them.

Joyful are you who meet with hatred
because of your stand for justice,
Your reward will not be the punishment
of those who abuse you;
Instead, you will long for their redemption;
Instead, your reward will be to see
the Reign of God in its completeness;



Your reward will be to see God's justice
ruling all humanity and all creation,
And there will be no end to that era of justice.

Joyful are you who endure harsh things
because of the teachings of Christ;
You will know the endless government
of justice and peace,
The endless dominion of love and truth.

Be comforted in this,
for all who have so
spoken the truth
have been so abused.
All of you can be full of joy,
Because you have hope—
The hope of God's Commonwealth—
Where tears are wiped away,
Where pain is erased.

You will be in harmony with creation
You will see the everlasting domain
of justice, mercy, peace, and truth,
You will be in the presence of God.
You will look upon God's face, and not faint.
God's eyes will smile upon you;
You will sit in God's lap,
And feel God's embrace.
You will sit by the fire with God,
And you will rest.

—Katie Cook is the editor for Seeds of Hope Publishers and also for *Baptist Peacemaker*, a publication of the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America.

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