

**The Teachings of Jesus**  
**Blessed Are Those That Hunger and Thirst for**  
**Righteousness**  
**Matthew 5:5**

**Introduction**

Today's teaching is one of the most far-reaching of all Jesus' statements. It is also one of the most incredible guarantees of godliness found anywhere in the Bible.

**I. Hunger and Thirst**

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ and thirst Jesus describes is the fierce, gnawing, killer \_\_\_\_\_ that doesn't give up.
2. We must realize the \_\_\_\_\_ nature that hunger and thirst can produce and then apply that to our spiritual desire for the life-giving Spirit of God.
3. Many believe that education, economics, and sociology are the best ways to meet people's basic \_\_\_\_\_.
4. No arbitrary add-on penalties are needed to enhance the total disaster that \_\_\_\_\_, by its very nature, produces.
5. The fundamental reality many people have never faced is that our universe is \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Because of sin, the world is at \_\_\_\_\_ with the Almighty.
7. There may be pleasure in sin for a season, but the pleasure of sin quickly turns to bondage and enslaving \_\_\_\_\_.

8. God is the source of all goodness, and sin \_\_\_\_\_ what is good.
9. God created us in His image with a deep need and spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ for His goodness and love.
10. Sin just doesn't \_\_\_\_\_.
11. We try everything to \_\_\_\_\_ a longing that only God can fill.
12. Only when our spirit is united with the Spirit of the Creator can our spiritual emptiness be \_\_\_\_\_, making us whole and complete.

## **II. Righteousness**

13. It is estimated that at any \_\_\_\_\_, one-third of the world is well-fed, one-third is under-fed, and one-third is starving to death.
14. Blessed are those who long for righteousness as a starving person longs for \_\_\_\_\_ and as a person perishing from thirst desires water to soothe their cracked and parched throat.
15. He is blessing those who want to live right and desire righteousness as a profoundly urgent and vitally important \_\_\_\_\_.
16. Jesus blesses those who hunger and thirst to \_\_\_\_\_ with justice, truth, mercy, and love of God.
17. Only God can fill the spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ inside us!

### III. Be Filled

18. The Beatitude does not say, 'Blessed \_\_\_\_\_ the righteous.'
19. The blessing is a challenge to embrace the journey of living a life that is \_\_\_\_\_ before God.
20. It is a blessing that comes with the promise that we \_\_\_\_\_ be filled.
21. It is the Holy Spirit that fills us with the presence and power and \_\_\_\_\_ and strength of God.
22. To be filled with the presence of God is to enjoy His company and spend time with Him each \_\_\_\_\_.

### Conclusion

23. It is easy to see that we are filled and satisfied when we accept the free gift of salvation, but too often that is where hungering and thirsting \_\_\_\_\_.
24. Many believers continue to struggle with big areas of sin when they try to fill a \_\_\_\_\_ with something other than Jesus Christ.
25. Hunger is a normal \_\_\_\_\_ sign.
26. If a person is sick spiritually, then he will have no \_\_\_\_\_ for God and the things of God.

Paul said, "For me to live is Christ". I hunger and thirst for God. The Psalmist David writes in Psalm 68:47 – Seek after God and your soul shall live! This fourth blessing is

for those who hunger and thirst after righteousness – for they shall be filled!

### Answers

- |              |               |              |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. hunger    | 10. work      | 19. right    |
| 2. intense   | 11. satisfy   | 20. will     |
| 3. needs     | 12. filled    | 21. life     |
| 4. sin       | 13. moment    | 22. day      |
| 5. spiritual | 14. food      | 23. stops    |
| 6. war       | 15. priority  | 24. hole     |
| 7. misery    | 16. identify  | 25. healthy  |
| 8. destroys  | 17. emptiness | 26. appetite |
| 9. longing   | 18. are       |              |

### QUESTIONS FOR MEDITATION

1. What ways do people chase things besides God to fill the void in their life? How does that normally work out? What can we do to help people hunger and thirst for God to fill these voids?
2. The punishment for sin is sin. How is this the case? In what ways have you seen sin result in more sin and more destruction?
3. In your life right now, what are you hungering and thirsting for? Where is your heart? What can you do to help hunger and thirst for righteousness instead of other things?