

# **NINE DISCOURSES ON THE BEATITUDES**

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Nine Discourses on the Beatitudes by William Smith

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**WILLIAM SMITH**

**NINE DISCOURSES  
ON THE BEATITUDES**



N I N E  
D I S C O U R S E S  
O N T H E  
B E A T I T U D E S.

BY THE  
REV. WILLIAM SMITH, D.D.  
D E A N O F C H E S T E R.



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# DISCOURSE I.

ST. MATT. V. 3.

BLESSED ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT :  
FOR THEIRS IS THE KINGDOM OF  
HEAVEN.

**T**HIS is the first blessing which our Saviour pronounced in his divine sermon on the Mount. Seated on an eminence, his disciples placed nearest to him, and surrounded by multitudes, whom the fame of his wisdom and miracles had gathered about him from all the regions round about, "he opened his mouth and taught them." He taught  
B them,

them so as man never before had taught. He declared explicitly what tempers of mind were most capable of making rational creatures blessed both here and hereafter; at least of pouring certain comfort into the present state, and insuring happiness and glory to the future.

The human mind is capable of various turns, and exerts itself under various appearances, in point both of virtue and vice; though upon the whole it turns out, and is pronounced either virtuous or vicious. In the good, some peculiar act or some distinguishing habit generally is seen, which varies the virtue of one from the virtue of another, though both are strictly commendable and righteous; and to righteousness in general is the favour of God, and the joy of futurity promised. Natural complexion gives a peculiar cast even to those who may be equally good. And