

Albright, Anchor Bible, Matthew
Beatitudes - blessed - state of the gods
State of the gods - beatitudes
blessed - in the state of the gods

Albright, W. F. and C. S. Mann, The Anchor Bible, Matthew (New York, Anchor Bible, Doubleday, 26 vols., 1964),

13. THE GREAT INSTRUCTION: THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

(v 1-12)

V 1 Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he had sat down his disciples came to him. 2 He began to teach them, in these words: 3 "Fortunate are the humble in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. 4 Fortunate are those who mourn, for they shall be consoled. 5 Fortunate are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. 6 Fortunate are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. 7 Fortunate are the merciful, for they shall have mercy shown to them. 8 Fortunate are the pure-minded, for they shall see God. 9 Fortunate are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God. 10 Fortunate are those who are persecuted on account of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 You are blessed whenever men vilify you, persecute you, and falsely charge you with evil for my sake; 12 rejoice and be glad, because your reward in heaven is great, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets before you.

NOTES

3. *Fortunate*. The word in Greek was used in classical times of the state of the gods in contrast to men. The usual English "blessed" has more and more come to have liturgical or ecclesiastical overtones. and we have chosen "fortunate" as being the best translation available to us.