

**A Place  
Called  
Perfect  
By**

**W.E.  
Thrasher,  
Jr.**

# A Place Called Perfect

*Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace. Psalms 37:37*

*Be ye therefore perfect, even as your father in heaven is perfect. Matthew 5:48*

Today, I would like to take you to **A Place Called Perfect**. There is an image that readily comes to my mind as I think of **A Place Called Perfect**. That image is of the Walgreen's TV commercial about a town called **Perfect**. Everything in **Perfect** is, as you can imagine, **Perfect**. When a baseball player from the home team slides into home plate, he gets up out of the dirt and his uniform is perfectly spotless. In any other baseball park in the world the acronym RBI means runs batted in, but not so in **Perfect**. In **Perfect** a RBI means a Really Big Ice cream cone. In **Perfect** there is no crime. In **Perfect** every day is sunny and bright. In **Perfect** everyone lives in harmony. There is no sickness in **Perfect**. There is no sorrow in **Perfect**. You could say that **Perfect** was heaven on earth. But since we can't live in **Perfect**, there is Walgreen's. Walgreen's paints a beautiful

picture of A Town Called **Perfect** and then they burst our bubble by telling us that **Perfect** doesn't exist. Well, my brothers and sisters I stand here today to declare to you that not only is there **A Place Called Perfect**, but I've got the GPS( not Global Positioning System) but (Gospel Preaching Sermon) that will guide you there.

The first step in getting to this **Place Called Perfect** is to understand what **Perfect** is. Our two scriptures for today provide in-depth insight into this concept called **Perfect**. Let us examine them. The Psalmist writes in Psalms 37:37 says "Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace." A contemporary paraphrasing of this text reiterates the point, Observe, embrace, cling to the ways of a good man who has achieved spiritual maturity and imitate his godly life. This man is blessed with the spirit of peace. The Psalmist reveals to us that a perfect man is one who has reached a level of spiritual growth that allows him to be secure in his daily living. His security is backed by his unwavering faith in God and the confidence of a relationship that is based on God's unfeigned love for

him. The result of this level of spiritual growth and maturity is that this man's life is an antidote (panacea, cure all, balm,) to chaos and confusion. It is proper at this juncture to point out that even in a **Place Called Perfect** chaos and confusion will try to get a foot hold, but just as light repels darkness, peace keeps chaos at bay. We, therefore are admonished to embrace, take hold of, grab hold of it, claim possession of this man's walk and imitate it. Walk the way he walks, talk the way he talks. We are to make this way of life our own. What is this life that we are asked to embrace and imitate? Listen as the Psalmist reveals the answer to us.

*<sup>1</sup>Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. <sup>2</sup>But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. <sup>3</sup>And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.*

*<sup>4</sup>The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. <sup>5</sup>Therefore the ungodly shall not*

*stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. <sup>6</sup>For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish. **Mark** the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace "A Place Called Perfect."*

Our second scripture for today is taken from Christ's most profound sermon, the sermon on the mount or as it has been called the Beatitudes.

The Beatitudes are not admonitions for some future state of existence, but rather they are Christ commands for a current state of being. To be means to actualize now. For us to be is the equivalent to God's I Am! That is why Jesus does not tell us that those who become poor in spirit will possess the Kingdom of heaven, no no! Blessed **are** the poor in spirit for **theirs is** the Kingdom of Heaven. He does not tell us to become the light of the world, but He declares that **we are!** If we are to reach **A Place Called Perfect, we must be!**

Jesus says "**Be ye therefore perfect, even as your father in heaven is perfect.**" The sermon on the

mount was written not only to help man deal with his many shortcomings, but to elevate him to a new plain of existence; To reveal to man a new paradigm of himself and to provide a way for him to overcome, to thrive, to sore, or as Isaiah would say “to mount up with wings of an eagle, to run and not be weary, to walk and not faint.” And you can do just that in **A Place Called Perfect**.

The Sermon on the Mount covers our responsibility to be an influence and an example to the rest of the world, “*Ye are the salt of the earth...Ye are the light of the world.*” Everywhere you go, everything you do, and everyone you touch is better because of your influence. You bring light to empty hearts and lives filled with darkness. I know what you are thinking, “what you say sounds good but it’s not realistic”. Well it is in **A Place Called Perfect!**

He challenges us to go above and beyond the call of duty. <sup>38</sup>*Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:* <sup>39</sup>*But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.* <sup>40</sup>*And if any man will sue thee at the law, and*

*take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also.* <sup>41</sup>*And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain.* <sup>42</sup>*Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.*

<sup>43</sup>*Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbor, and hate thine enemy.* <sup>44</sup>*But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;* <sup>45</sup>*That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.* <sup>46</sup>*For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?* <sup>47</sup>*And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so?*

And finally as Jesus concludes this portion of his discourse he say to us “*Be ye therefore perfect, even as your father in heaven is perfect. Matthew 5:48*” He is not ignoring the fact that all of us have sinned and

come short of the glory of God, nor has he forgotten that there is non righteous no not one, but what he is telling us is that in spite of these frailties, regardless of our shortcomings he wants our spiritual growth to rise to a new level. Not necessarily sinless perfect, but Justified perfect. That means that you have laid aside every weight and the sin that would so easily beset you. You have become complete. That means to possess a complete love that, like God's, embraces those who love you as well as those who do not. ***Be ye therefore perfect, even as your father in heaven is perfect.***

***Matthew 5:48***

When we can love them who hate us, when we can turn the other cheek, When we can let our lights shine, and salt the earth, When you can be troubled on every side and not be distressed, perplexed, but not in despair, persecuted, but not forsaken, cast down, but not destroyed, we, my brothers and sisters are In that **Place Called Perfect!**