



Blessed Are The Meek

Matthew 5:5

Trilacoochee
October 16, 2022

The Sermon on the Mount

- The **foundational principles** of the kingdom of heaven.
- “The sermon of **true righteousness**”

The Beatitudes

- The **character** of kingdom citizens
- What the citizens of Jesus’ kingdom should “**look like.**”

The First Two Beatitudes

- ◎ **Blessed are the poor in spirit (5:3)**
 - > Blessed are those who recognize their spiritual destitution; who recognize what lowly, sinful, unworthy creatures they really are.
- ◎ **Blessed are those who mourn (5:4)**
 - > Understanding their spiritual condition, blessed are those who are truly sorry and mournful over their sins.

Blessed Are The Meek For They Shall Inherit the Earth

- What is meekness?
- What meekness is **NOT**.
 - > “Humbly patient or docile ... overly submissive or compliant, spiritless, tame.” (Random House Dict.)
 - > A “Casper Milquetoast,” (comic book character of early 1900’s); weak, feeble minded, indecisive, fearful, wimpy.

Meekness Defined

- “Meek” (KJV, NKJV, ASV, ESV, NIV)
- “Gentle” (NASV)
- “Humble” (NCV)
- “Gentleness, mildness” (Thayer)
- “Gentleness, humility, courtesy, considerateness” (A & G Greek Lex.)
- Good definitions, but still not quite the full meaning of the word.

William Barclay

- ◉ **To meekness** “belongs the ability to bear reproaches and slights with moderation, and not to embark on revenge quickly and not to be easily provoked to anger, but to be free from all bitterness and contentiousness, having tranquility and stability in the spirit.” (*Flesh and Spirit*).

Plato (Quoted by Barclay)

- “Plato illustrates meekness with a trained watch dog, who **bravely is hostile to strangers** and is **gently friendly** with those with whom he is familiar.”

A Domesticated Animal

- ◉ Barclay illustrates meekness with a domesticated animal (**ox** or **horse**).
- ◉ The untrained animal is **strong** but **wild**, self-willed, and out of control.
- ◉ A domesticated animal is still **strong**, but **submissive** to the master.
- ◉ **Strength under control.** (The perfect combination of strength, gentleness, submission)

Examples of Meekness

◎ Moses

- > Numbers 12:3 – “Now the man Moses was **very meek**, above all the men that were upon the face of the earth.”
- > **Was Moses weak?**
 - **A man of great strength and character** (led Israel 40 years)
 - Yet **gentle, humble, and submissive** to the will of God.

◎ Jesus our Lord

- > **Matt. 11:28-30** – “Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; **for I am meek and lowly in heart**: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.”
- > **Strong** in dealing with His enemies (and even His disciples), yet **gentle, loving, patient**, and **submissive** to the will of His Father.

1. Meekness Should Be A Natural Result of Our Growth

- Gal. 5:22-24 – “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **meekness**, self-control; against such there is no law. And they that are of Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with the passions and the lusts thereof.”

2. Meekness is the spirit with which we receive the Word

- ◉ **James 1:19-21** – “Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. Therefore, put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and **receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.**”

3. Meekness is the spirit with which we answer questions.

- 1 Peter 3:15 – “But sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being **ready to make a defense** to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with **gentleness and reverence.**”
 (“Meekness and fear” ASV)

4. Meekness is the spirit with which we restore the wayward

- ◉ **Galatians 6:1** – “Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, **restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness** (meekness, KJV) each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted.”

5. Meekness is the spirit with which we interact with one another in the body of Christ.

- Eph. 4:1-3 – “I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beseech you to walk worthily of the calling wherewith ye were called, with all lowliness and **meekness**, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; giving diligence to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace.”

Meekness

1. **Grow** in meekness.
2. **Receive** God's word in meekness.
3. **Answer** others with meekness.
4. **Restore** the wayward in meekness.
5. **Interact** with one another with meekness.

The First Three Beatitudes

- Blessed are the **poor in spirit**
- Blessed are those **who mourn**
- Blessed are **the meek**