

BIBLE LIFE MESSAGES

True Humility

Matthew 5:5

¹ Remember - The beatitudes are exclamations. ² They can be translated, “You are so fortunate . . . because!”

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These beatitudes are the character traits God is molding into you so you can experience the final results! ⁴

Our scripture today is Matthew, chapter 5, verse 5, **Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.** ⁵

I. What Do You Mean When You Say “Meek”?

What do you mean when you say “meek”? ⁶

The word **Meek** in this passage ¹ means gentleness and humbleness. But it is more than that! ⁷ Aristotle defined it this way, “It’s the happy medium between excessive anger and no anger at all”! It’s being angry at the right time and never at the wrong time. It’s having your instincts and passions under control. ⁸

¹ πραῦς.

Later, it came to be used for an animal, like a horse or dog, which was domesticated. It is submissive to its master's control. You have the power, but you choose not to use it. It's a "gentleness of strength". 9

Then, it came to mean a "recognizing of your own weakness or ignorance". It's the ability to see yourself realistically! 10

Here are a couple of examples of this character trait.

Moses. Numbers, chapter 12, verse 3 says, **Now Moses was a very humble man, more humble than anyone else on the face of the earth.** 11

Then, there was **Lord Jesus** Himself. He said, **Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.** 2

² Matthew 11:28-30.

In fact, Lord Jesus said in Matthew, chapter 26, verses 51 through 53, He could have summoned twelve legions of angels ³ to come to His rescue. But He did not! He was resolved to go to the cross! ¹²

How do you express meekness in your life? The Bible gives us some answers. ¹³ Titus, chapter 3, verse 2, Slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and to show true humility toward all men. ¹⁴

Colossians, chapter 3, verse 12, **Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.** ¹⁵

First Timothy, chapter 6, verse 11, **But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.** ¹⁶

Galatians, chapter 6, verse 1, **Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore**

³ 36,000 to 72,000 soldiers.

him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. ¹⁷

And then, again, in James, chapter 1, verse 21, Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

So, ¹⁸

II. When Meekness is Evident in Your Life, What Do You Inherit?

When meekness is evident in your life, what do you inherit? ¹⁹

There are two words which are translated **world** in the New Testament. ²⁰

The most common word is the word “Cosmos”. ⁴ It could be rendered world, universe, order or even arrangement. We get our English word “cosmetic” from this word. It’s used to describe the earthly

⁴ κόσμος.

society in contrast to the family of God. It is used to distinguish worldly people from godly people. ²¹

Another word translated world is “Gay”. ⁵ It means the actual earth, the land apart from the people who dwell in it. This is the word used here! ²²

Our scripture today, from Matthew, chapter 5, verse 5 is actually a direct quote from Psalm, chapter 37, verse 11, **But the meek will inherit the land and enjoy great peace.**

What is meant by “land” here? ²³

The “land” promised here was the Promised Land. It was the Land of Canaan. The country of Israel now occupies this area of land. ²⁴

When the Jews thought of this land, this area of the physical world, it was similar to what we Christians think of heaven! It was God’s land, and He gave it to us!

⁵ γῆ.

God has promised His children a home in His presence forever! It's His land! It's His place! ²⁵

Lord Jesus described it like this, Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. ⁶ Just as God promised Israel to the Jews, Lord Jesus promises heaven to the meek. ²⁶

One last thought here; God sometimes uses trials to mold in you the character trait of meekness! But, compared to eternity, this life on earth is so short! So, trials are worth enduring and learning from. ²⁷

Be patient! Let God develop in you the “gentle strength” of meekness!

<http://www.biblelifemessages.org>

⁶ John 14:1-2.