

## Blessed are the Meek

August 21, 2014

Matthew 5:5 “Blessed are the **MEEK**, for they shall inherit the earth.”

**MEEK** (*praupathia* - from *praus* and *pascho*)

- *praus* - gentle
- *pascho* - suffer, endure
  
- *gentle while suffering*
- *divine blend of gentleness and strength*
- *strength controlled by gentleness*
- *power without harshness*
- *bold stand for God with no defense for self*
- *demanding God’s will while void of self-will*
- *seeks justice and truth instead of personal retaliation or revenge*
- *insisting only on what is necessary in God’s eyes*
- *exercising God’s strength under His control*

**MEEKNESS IS THE GRACE TO ACT AND REACT FREE FROM SELF-PROMOTION, SELF-PRESERVATION AND RETALIATION. MEEKNESS SEEKS TO EXALT GOD AND PROMOTE HIS WILL, NOT SELF.**

**WHEN WE REFUSE TO PROMOTE OR PROTECT SELF BY COMMITTING OURSELVES INTO THE WILL AND CARE OF GOD, WE OPEN THE DOOR FOR GOD TO SUPERNATURALLY MOVE ON OUR BEHALF.**

**WHEN WE ACT OR REACT FROM SELF-PROMOTION, SELF-PRESERVATION OR RETALIATION, WE PERPETUATE AND ACCELERATE A CYCLE OF DEFEAT AND FAILURE.**

### **LIFE EXAMPLES:**

- *when someone takes credit for work you did*
- *when someone accuses you and lies about you falsely and unjustly*
- *when someone criticizes or puts you down to exalt themselves*
- *when someone says something that causes pain and injury spiritually, psychologically or emotionally*
- *persecution or abuse*

### **Matthew 5:38–48**

38 “You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’

39 **But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil.** But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.

40 And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well.

41 And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles.

42 Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.  
43 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and **HATE YOUR ENEMY.**'  
44 **But I say to you, Love your enemies** and **pray for those who persecute you,**  
45 **so that you may be sons of your Father** who is in heaven. **For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.**  
46 **For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?**  
47 **And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?**  
48 **You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.**

#### **1 Peter 2:21–23**

21 For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.  
22 He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth.  
23 **When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.**

#### **Luke 22:47–51**

47 While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him,  
48 but Jesus said to him, "Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?"  
49 And when those who were around him saw what would follow, they said, "**Lord, shall we strike with the sword?**"  
50 And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear.  
51 But Jesus said, "**No more of this!**" **And he touched his ear and healed him.**

#### **Numbers 12:3**

**"Now the man Moses was very MEEK, more than all people who were on the face of the earth."**

#### **Numbers 16:1–7**

1 Now Korah the son of Izhar, son of Kohath, son of Levi, and Dathan and Abiram the sons of Eliab, and On the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben, took men.  
2 And they rose up before Moses, with a number of the people of Israel, 250 chiefs of the congregation, chosen from the assembly, well-known men.  
3 They assembled themselves together against Moses and against Aaron and said to them, "You have gone too far! For all in the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among them. Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the LORD?"  
4 **When Moses heard it, he fell on his face,**  
5 and he said to Korah and all his company, "**In the morning the LORD WILL SHOW WHO is his, and who is holy, and will bring him near to him. The ONE WHOM HE CHOOSES** he will bring near to him.  
6 Do this: take censers, Korah and all his company;

7 put fire in them and put incense on them before the LORD tomorrow, and the man whom the LORD chooses shall be the holy one. **You have gone too far, sons of Levi!**

#### **Exodus 5:1-3**

1 Afterward Moses and Aaron went and said to Pharaoh, "**Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, 'Let my people go,** that they may hold a feast to me in the wilderness."

2 But Pharaoh said, "Who is the Lord, that I should obey his voice and let Israel go? I do not know the Lord, and moreover, I will not let Israel go."

3 Then they said, "**The God of the Hebrews has met with us.** Please let us go a three days' journey into the wilderness that we may sacrifice to the Lord our God, lest he fall upon us with pestilence or with the sword."

#### **Matthew 10:16**

"Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be **wise as serpents** and **innocent** (*KJV - harmless*) **as doves.**"

#### **Matthew 7:6**

"Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, **lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.**"

#### **Matthew 10:22–23**

22 and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

23 **When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next,** for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

#### **John 18:19–24**

19 The high priest then questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching.

20 Jesus answered him, "**I have spoken openly to the world. I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret.**

21 **Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me what I said to them; they know what I said.**"

22 When he had said these things, one of the officers standing by struck Jesus with his hand, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?"

23 Jesus answered him, "**If what I said is wrong, bear witness about the wrong; but if what I said is right, why do you strike me?**"

24 Annas then sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

#### **Acts 16:35–39**

35 But when it was day, the magistrates sent the police, saying, "Let those men go."

36 And the jailer reported these words to Paul, saying, "The magistrates have sent to let you go. Therefore come out now and go in peace."

37 But Paul said to them, "They have beaten us publicly, uncondemned, men who are Roman citizens, and have thrown us into prison; and do they now throw us out secretly? No! Let them come themselves and take us out."

38 The police reported these words to the magistrates, and they were afraid when they heard that they were Roman citizens.

39 So they came and apologized to them. And they took them out and asked them to leave the city.