

The Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 5-7

When Jesus saw the crowds, He went up on the mountain; and after He sat down, His disciples came to Him.

He opened His mouth and began to teach them, saying,

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Matthew 5: 5 (NIV)

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Question

How do you think the sermon is going so far since Jesus has said happy or joyful are the poor, the sad and the meek?

I don't think this is what the crowds expected. They felt their strengths were their spirituality, or their religiousness. And Jesus just pulled the rug out from underneath them with the opening words of His sermon.

They were looking for a Messiah to overthrow Rome who was a great general who could set up a Jewish revolution that would bring about independence by might. They were looking for a Messiah who would rule in the religious fashion they were accustomed to.

But Jesus tells them that He wants a broken spirit. He wants a mourning heart. He wants humility and all this was necessary to enter His kingdom. These words must have been shocking to them.

Question

How do you define meek?

Merriam Webster 1828

1. Mild of temper; soft; gentle; not easily provoked or irritated; yielding; given to forbearance under injuries.

Merriam Webster 1828

2. Appropriately humble, in an evangelical sense; submissive to the divine will; not proud, selfsufficient or refractory; not peevish and apt to complain of divine dispensations.

Question

How does the world today define meek?

Merriam Webster today

- 1: enduring injury with patience and without resentment.
- 2 : deficient in spirit and courage.
 - 3 : not violent or strong

The world thinks the victory and the riches belong to the strong. Conquer and go get it, grab all the gusto, be macho and strong not meek and weak.

Question

How does God view the meek?

"The meek" comes from the Greek root word praus which means "mild, gentle, and soft." So the meaning from the Greek word is someone who is Mild, gentle, soft, patient, kind, quiet, willing, submissive.

First, just like the teachings of Jesus so far, the world does not understand the spiritual significance since it is so different from the world view.

1 Corinthians 1: 27-28

But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.

1 Corinthians 1: 27-28

God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are notto nullify the things that are,

Question

Is Jesus meek?

2 Corinthians 10: 1

Now I, Paul, myself urge you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ

Matthew 21: 5

"Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Behold your King is coming to you, Gentle, and mounted on a donkey,

Even on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden."

Luke 23: 34 (NIV)

Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

Question

Is Jesus weak?

Meekness is not weakness. It is power under control!

For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth;

while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously;

so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.

Ephesians 4: 1-2

Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called,

Ephesians 4: 1-2

with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love

Colossians 3: 12

So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience;

Question

What does God do with the meek?

Numbers 12: 3 (ESV)

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

Matthew 5: 5 (NIV)

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Psalm 37: 11 (NIV)

But the meek will inherit the land and enjoy peace and prosperity.

Question

How do you develop meekness?

while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously;

God gives us the best reason that we should become meek in Psalm 149

Psalm 149: 4 (KJV)

For the LORD taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation.