

MATTHEW 5:5

Meekness is a term seldom used in today's society. So much so I wonder how many people can accurately define it and know how important, it, is in living the Christian life. Jesus Himself said that He was meek and lowly. If we pattern our lives after Christ, it greatly behooves us to know what it means to be meek.

One thing that meekness is not, is weakness. The two words may sound alike but they are far different, in meaning. Weakness is the lacking in to overcome or combat outside forces. Meekness can be just the opposite. To be meek is to be not easily inclined to anger or show resentment. It is to be patient and mild. There is great, power in meekness because in the world about us many things influence us to lose our temper, pop—off with our mouths, be rude or cruel as a form of revenge, or hold grudges because of past happenings. The meek person has the ability to overcome all of these sins through patience, long-suffering, and love.

Moses was known as a very meek man, and yet he was a very strong individual. Many times in the wilderness, men of evil nature opposed his thinking, decisions, and leadership. Moses always tried to reason with the men, showing them how God had chosen him to lead the Israelites through the wilderness in search of the promised land. Sometimes God would intervene with miracles showing His approval of Moses and usually the people responded and continued to follow Moses. Because Moses was very meek in his dealings with the people, he was able to stand up against the criticisms about him. He did all of this without sin and was a strong leader of the Israelite nation.

Jesus was also meek in character. Many times in the gospel accounts we read of groups of men opposing Christ, trying to trick Him, disprove Him, and catch Him in a lie. But through all of this the Son of God remained humble to His Father and continued to teach about Him, showing great works of love and self-sacrifice. He even said that He came not to be served but to serve. At, the end of Jesus life on earth, many things happened that might have caused Him to make retaliation for treatment and abuse lodged against Him. He was unjustly accused, betrayed, lied to, spit, upon, mocked, jeered, beaten and treated like a criminal although He had broken no law, injured no person, and only taught about love, peace, goodness, and faith. And in all of this Jesus remained meek, not wanting others to fall by an act of His disobedience. Our Savior committed no sin, but became sin on our behalf (2Cor. 5:21) that through His meekness and sacrifice we could have eternal life.

Let us begin to grow in meekness that we might learn not to become angry and show resentment, but rather to be patient with others and mild in temperament. The happy person can sort these things out and react to the situation accordingly. PSA (Positive Spiritual Attitude) makes a person meek, so that they might inherit the earth.

More next week...