

Matthew: The Life & Teaching of Jesus the Messiah

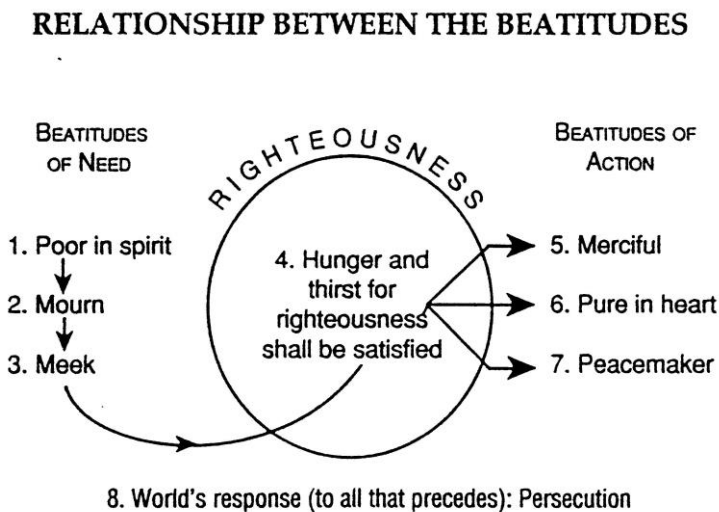
Lakewood Presbyterian Church

Key Idea: *Meekness is neither weakness nor effeminacy, but a humble and gentle attitude towards others which is determined by a true estimate of oneself.*

Lesson 14
Matt. 5:5
The Beatitudes: The Meek
(11-23-25)

I. THE PROGRESSION OF THOUGHT IN THE BEATITUDES

The Beatitudes are intimately related to one another and give a progression of thought. The first three beatitudes describe a disciple's confession of spiritual needs, whereas the fourth shows the resultant hunger of that need. The latter four beatitudes then set forth a disciple's active response to the promise that his hunger and thirst for righteousness will be satisfied, whereas the last beatitude describes the unsaved world's response to him. We might diagram this relationship as follows:



II. ARE THE MEEK WEAK, EFFIMINATE, IRRELVANT OR WORSE?

A. Consider the relation the relation of this beatitude to the previous ones:

B. The Greek term *praus* is most often translated _____

C. Why is meekness no e_____ for niceness, compromise, or groveling? Consider some examples:

- Moses (Nu.12:3) _____
- Jesus (Mt. 11:29) _____
- Abraham (Ge.13:8-12) _____
- David (I Sa.24:12) _____

D. Meekness is c_____ w/ strength because it is a h_____ attitude born of a true e_____ of one's s_____.

- God-ward orientation: Meekness is willing to s_____ to the providential w_____ of God.
- Man-ward orientation: Meekness is a g_____ and h_____ towards others that arise out of a true understanding of our s_____ condition.

III. WHAT ARE THE DISTINGUISHING MARKS OF MEEKNESS?¹

- A. The meek are not readily p_____
- Why? Because they have n_____ to p_____
- B. The meek are t_____ (James 1:21)
- Why? Because they have a h_____ view of what they k_____
- C. The meek receive c_____
- Why? Because they k_____ their own h_____ and are willing to hear of their f_____ and change.
- D. The meek are g_____ with o_____.
- Why? Because they k_____ their own profound f_____ they are t_____ in dealing with the flaws of o_____. (Matt. 12:16-20; Isa. 42:3)
- E. The meek are m_____ (I Cor. 4:7; Phil. 3:4-6)
- Why? Because they know their un_____ and complete d_____ on God.
- F. The meek are ready to s_____ (Matt. 16:24, Gal. 2:20, 2 Cor. 5:15)
- Why? Because as believers we have been c_____ with C_____

IV. THE PROMISE: HOW DO THE MEEK “INHERIT” THE EARTH?

- A. What is the normal human expectation? The meek get n_____; the powerful get a_____
- B. Both Jesus & the OT stand this expectation on its h_____ (Ps. 37:9-11, 22, 34)
- C. Is this promise only for an otherworldly future? _____
1. The majority view of the evangelical church today (& most fiction):
- _____
2. Why is this inconsistent with the Bible? Some good reasons:
- Satan is b_____ (Matt. 12:28-29, Col. 2:15)
 - Jesus has promised to b_____ His C_____ (Matt. 28:18-20).
 - The OT prophets predict a g_____ Christian era (Ps. 22:7-28; Ps. 110:1-2; Isa. 11:9)
 - In Christ, we His people p_____ all t_____ (2 Cor. 6:10; I Cor. 3:21-22)
3. How do the meek *inherit*?
- Not through m_____ or p_____ upheavals.
 - We inherit live l_____ taking a lump of dough, a bit at a t_____
 - The picture is one of a g_____ but g_____ reversal (2 Peter 3:13; Matt. 19:28) where the wicked l_____ it all! (Matt. 16:26)

¹ My thanks to Terry Johnson, pastor of *Independent Presbyterian Church* in Savannah for these points.