

Spiritual Meekness – A most necessary Virtue!

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Mt 5:5

But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace. Psalms 37:11 (KJV)

I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, 2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; 3 Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Ephesians 4:1-3 (KJV)

Dictionary.com describes meekness as docile, overly compliant, spiritless, yielding or tame. Merriam-Webster define it as mild, deficient in courage, submissive and weak. Certainly not the bible definition of Meekness!

The Greek word used is *prautes* (praw-oo-tes), which connotes a total lack of self-pride, to the point of a lack of self-concern. The poor and oppressed are often labeled as such, but not because they are cowed but as a result of their humility for their own position, and therefore place a greater emphasis on serving others.

Another comparable Greek word for meek discerned via linguistic and historical analysis is *praus* (praw-oos), a decided strength of disciplined calmness. In contrast to inherent anger, this leadership virtue towards followers demonstrates a benevolent compassion for subordinates.

The Hebrew word for meek is *anaw* (an-awh), which refers to someone who is humble, lowly, afflicted or bearing a heavy burden. It is largely an explanation about the circumstance someone is willing to endure, rather than a state to give in to.

Spiritual Meekness is a virtue that refers to those who are willing to share and sacrifice on behalf of others. Conversely, those who seek dominion and will use any means to trample and crush others are the opposite of what God refers to in Scripture as meekness.

Meekness does not mean weakness! It doesn't mean that we must cower or retreat from our principles and does not involve the surrender of our righteous convictions. Meek men and women of the Bible demonstrated firm resolve, courage, conviction, and strength.

Moses exhibited firm resolve, courage, conviction, and strength when he came down from Mount Sinai and chucked down the tablets and Jesus' fury when He threw the merchants and money changers out of the temple! Exodus 32:19 & John 2:14-17 (KJV) 17 And his disciples remembered that it was written, the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up.

John 2:17 (KJV) from Psalms 69:9 Paul's statement in 1 Cor 4:21 shall I come with a rod or meekness.

Consider the purpose of this yielding behavior. In other words, spiritual meekness is worthy of this surrender because it is to the Lord God in whom we worship!

*Meekness is essentially an attitude or quality of heart whereby a person is willing to accept and submit without resistance to the will and desire of God.

A spiritually meek person is not self-willed – not continually concerned with his own ways, ideas and wishes. They are willing to put themselves in second place and submit themselves to achieve God's will and what is good for others.

With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing (enduring) one another in love; 3 Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:2-3 (KJV)

Spiritual Meekness is therefore the opposite of self-will, self-interest, and self-assertiveness. This is not a sign of weakness of character, but of strength. It'll require great self-control to submit to the service of others.

Consequently, it's a servant-like leadership quality that's absent from the world.

In Jn 13:5-17 Jesus gave a great lesson of leadership to his disciples in washing their feet. Remember how Peter responded?

10 Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit
John 13:10 (KJV) 12 So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he
said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you? 13 Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am.
14 If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I
have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. 16 Verily, verily, I say unto you, The
servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him. 17 If ye know these
things, happy are ye if ye do them. John 13:12-17 (KJV)

Then said Jesus unto his disciples, if any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross,
and follow me. 25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake
shall find it. Matthew 16:24-25 (KJV)

Jesus is our role model of Meekness! Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you
rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto
your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. Matthew 11:28-30 (KJV)

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the
meek; Isa 61:1 (Those who are humble and don't resist God as well as others).

Remember Peter's answer to the Lord's question three times; St. Jn 21:15-17" Peter, lovest thou me?"

However, the third time the word lovest was philo love not agape love like the first two. After Peter's denial
"three times" he knew he could only be honest in saying right now my love is philo!

Here are words by Charles D. Meigs and his Poem; "Others" written in 1902. He allowed it to be set to music in
1916.

1 – Lord, help me live from day to day
In such a self-forgetful way
That even when I kneel to pray
My prayer shall be for others.

(Chorus)

Others, Lord, yes others,
Let this my motto be,
Help me to live for others,
That I may live like Thee.

2 – Help me in all the work I do
To ever be sincere and true
And know that all I'd do for You
Must needs be done for others.

3 – Let self be crucified and slain
And buried deep, and all in vain
May efforts be to rise again,
Unless to live for others.

4 – And when my work on earth is done,
And my new work in Heav'n's begun,
May I forget the crown I've won,
While thinking still of others.

Yours truly,

Mick Smith