

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: The Mighty Meek

SERMON REFERENCE: Matthew 5:5

LWF SERMON NUMBER: #1657

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) Matthew 7:24
- b) The Beatitudes begin with the word “blessed.”
 - i) This word means more than happy.
 - ii) It means having everything you need.
 - (1) Having everything you need spiritually.
- c) The Beatitudes deal with a Christian character.
 - i) Christian character is what you are.
 - ii) Reputation is what others think about you, but character is what God knows about you.
 - iii) “Blessed” is not what we have or what we do, but what we are.
 - (1) When we die, we will leave behind all that we have and all that we’ve done.
 - (a) What we will take with us is all that we are.
- d) It is more important that we seek blessedness than happiness.
 - i) Most people in the world are seeking happiness.
 - (1) People who are on a search for happiness are generally unhappy people.
 - ii) Happiness is not something we find by looking for it.
 - (1) Happiness is something we stumble over when we are seeking blessedness.
 - iii) When we get right with God, blessedness will find us.
- e) Matthew 5:1-5
 - i) People of this world would say, “Blessed are the mighty men and the money men.”
 - ii) We typically think of meekness as weakness.
 - (1) But the Bible says, “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the Earth.”
- f) Today’s message will explain what meekness is, how to develop meekness, and the dynamic of meekness.

2) THE DEFINITION OF MEEKNESS

- a) Meekness is not weakness.
 - i) Matthew 11:29
 - (1) The Lord Jesus is meek, but He is not weak.
 - (a) He fasted forty days and forty nights alone in the wilderness with wild beasts.
 - (i) Matthew 4:1-11
 - (b) He made a whip and drove the money changers out of the temple.
 - (i) John 2:14-15
 - (c) Matthew 8:20
 - (2) Jesus was a strong man.
 - ii) Back in his day, Moses was the meekest man on Earth.
 - (1) Numbers 12:3

- (2) If you study the life of Moses, you will find that he sometimes got into trouble because of his temper.
- (3) Moses was not a weak man.
 - (a) He was a general who led the children of Israel out of Egypt.
- b) Meekness is not cowardice.
- c) The word “meekness” means “yielded.”
 - i) It literally has the idea of strength under control.
 - (1) The word “meekness” has the idea of a wild Stallion being broken.
 - (2) In times past when a horse was domesticated and trained to be ridden or to pull a plow, the proper term used to describe this process was “meeked.”
 - (a) The horse had been meeked.
 - ii) Meekness is a compliant spirit.
- d) The Beatitudes are in a specific order:
 - i) The first step is “blessed are the poor in spirit.”
 - (1) This shows our condition.
 - (a) We are spiritually bankrupt.
 - ii) “Blessed are they that mourn.”
 - (1) After our condition comes our contrition.
 - iii) “Blessed are the meek.”
 - (1) After that condition and contrition comes that control.
 - (2) We take ourselves and place ourselves under God’s control.
 - (a) We have a new Master.
 - (b) A horse that has been meeked still has the same strength, the same drive, and the same instincts, but now there’s a bridle.
- e) It has been suggested that there are two ways to deal with a wild horse, which can also be applied to people.
 - i) Self-release:
 - (1) Just let him run wild.
 - (2) There is no self-restraint, just self-assertion.
 - (3) This says that whatever is natural is beautiful, and whatever is beautiful must be right.
 - (4) Just do your thing.
 - (a) Don’t put any restraints upon yourself.
 - (5) Nietzsche was a chief apostle of this philosophy.
 - ii) Self-restraint:
 - (1) While there are some who want to let the horse run wild, there are others who want to cripple the horse.
 - (a) They want to hobble the horse so that he can’t run at all.
 - (2) This view is reflected in Buddhism.
 - (a) This philosophy claims that our difficulties are caused by frustrations over unrealized desires, so we should simply negate these desires.

- (i) We should somehow dampen our spirit until we come to the place where we don't desire anything; so, therefore, we are never disappointed.
 - 1. We then come to a state of Nirvana.
 - (3) This view is not Bible Christianity.
 - (a) This view is no more Bible Christianity than letting the horse run wild.
 - (b) Jesus is not saying let the horse run wild, and He is not saying cripple the horse.
 - (c) Jesus is saying blessed are the meek.
 - f) Romans 6:19
 - i) "Your members" in this passage refers to your hands, eyes, feet, tongue, etc.
 - ii) Rather than using your tongue to blaspheme, you now use your tongue to praise.
 - (1) Your ambition is to serve the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - (2) You still have the same fight and ambition, but now you're fighting the devil.
 - g) Have you ever yielded?
 - i) It's the one thing we don't want to do and the one thing that we need to do more than anything else.
 - h) God does not hobble the horse; He energizes the horse.
 - i) God puts the bit, the bridle and the saddle on the horse.
 - ii) Blessed are those who have yielded.
 - i) Meekness is strength under control.
- 3) THE DEVELOPMENT OF MEEKNESS
 - a) Where do we get meekness?
 - i) There is a sequence:
 - (1) First, we must see ourselves as poor in spirit.
 - (2) Then, we are brokenhearted over our sin and condition.
 - (a) If we've never been broken, then we will not be meek.
 - (i) We go to church thinking, somehow, we've done God a favor, and we walk out never seeing our bankrupt condition and never mourning over our sin.
 - 1. Therefore, we never yield our lives to Jesus Christ.
 - ii) If you are ready to yield to the Lord Jesus, then you can be meek.
 - b) We must be submitted to the Son of God.
 - i) We must receive Jesus.
 - ii) Matthew 11:28-30
 - (1) Jesus Himself is saying to us, "Come."
 - (2) This is a picture of two oxen pulling together.
 - (a) It is no longer only you, but you and Jesus.
 - (b) Whenever the yoke is on two oxen, one of the oxen is in the lead.

- (i) In this case, it's Jesus in the lead.
 - (ii) We must learn of Him.
- (3) When He says that His yoke is easy, He means that it fits right.
 - (a) Christianity is not something we have to do; it is something we get to do.
 - (b) Some say that it's hard to be a Christian, but the Bible says that the way of the transgressor is hard.
 - (i) Proverbs 13:15
 - (ii) Jesus' yoke is easy.
 - (c) This doesn't mean that we won't pull or that there isn't any work to do.
 - (i) His yoke is not lazy.
- iii) If we would be meek, then there is a decision we must make.
 - (1) Jesus will not force Himself upon anyone.
- iv) We must give our hearts to Jesus.
 - (1) We must decide to take the yoke of Jesus Christ.
 - (2) Jesus does not say to come to a denomination, but to come to Him.
- c) We must be responsive to the Word of God.
 - i) We must respond to the Word of God.
 - ii) James 1:21
 - (1) The word "soul" here can mean "psyche."
 - (2) "Receive with meekness" means to let the Word of God be our control.
 - (a) Let the Word of God be your bridle and bit.
 - (3) There are two Greek words translated "receive:"
 - (a) One is a self-prompting taking.
 - (i) It has the idea of grasping, reaching out and snatching.
 - 1. Some people think that they can learn the Bible that way.
 - a. They get a dictionary, concordance, commentaries, and they sit down at a desk and say that they are going to learn the Bible.
 - b. You might learn some facts, but you cannot learn God's Word until you receive it with meekness, ready to be taught.
 - i. You cannot know the Word of God until your spirit has been broken.
 - (b) The other word (which is the one used in James 1:21) means "to welcome with humility."
 - (i) Not to take, but to welcome.
 - (ii) This means to sit down to study the Bible absolutely prepared to do everything it says.
 - 1. Not just parading the Word of God past the judgment bar of your mind trying to decide whether or not you think it is right or wrong.

- iii) To reach out with one hand has the idea of grasping; to reach out with both hands has the idea of receiving.
 - (1) Let go of this world with both hands, and reach out to Jesus Christ with both hands.
 - iv) Through the Word of God, God will put a bridle and a bit on us.
 - (1) And the horses won't run wild, and they won't be crippled.
 - (a) They will be controlled.
 - d) We must be filled with the Spirit of God.
 - i) Galatians 5:21-23
 - ii) When we ask the Lord Jesus to put His yoke upon us, when we receive the Word of God, and when we ask the Spirit of God to work in us, then the Holy Spirit produces meekness.
 - iii) Meekness is the fruit of the Spirit.
 - (1) We don't produce that fruit; we bear that fruit.
 - iv) The Holy Spirit produces that fruit in us.
- 4) THE DYNAMIC OF MEEKNESS
- a) Matthew 5:5
 - i) The meek have an inheritance.
 - b) We will never have our full inheritance without meekness.
 - i) A person who cannot control himself or be controlled by the Spirit of God is never satisfied.
 - c) When Jesus says in Matthew 5:5 that the meek will inherit the Earth, this speaks of now and in the hereafter.
 - i) We inherit the Earth now.
 - (1) 1 Corinthians 3:21-23
 - (2) 2 Corinthians 6:10
 - (a) No matter what you have, you can't enjoy it if you don't have blessedness because blessedness does not come in things.
 - (b) It doesn't matter what you don't have, if you have blessedness you have everything.
 - (c) What can the devil do to someone like this, who as having nothing possess all things?
 - (i) The devil comes to us in two ways:
 - 1. As a roaring lion to terrify us.
 - a. He tells us that if we don't follow him that he will take everything.
 - i. He can't take anything from us because we don't have anything.
 - 2. As an angel of light to entice us.
 - a. The devil tells us that he will give us anything.
 - i. But we already have everything.
 - ii) We inherit the Earth in the world to come.
 - (1) Matthew 6:9-10

- (a) There is coming a time when the kingdoms of this world will become the kingdoms of our Lord and His Christ.
- (2) His kingdom shall spread from shore to shore.
- (3) The saints shall rule and reign with Jesus Christ.
- (4) He didn't make this Earth for the devil's crowd; He made it for His people.

5) CONCLUSION

- a) Have you lined up on the Lord's side?
 - i) Do you see yourself as bankrupt, broken and destitute?
 - ii) Have you wept over your sin?
- b) Yield yourself to the Lord Jesus today.
 - i) Take His yoke upon you.
 - ii) Believe His Word.
 - iii) Be led of His Spirit.
 - iv) Then, you will inherit the Earth.
- c) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- d) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16