

The 3rd Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday, June 26, 2022

“Living the Beatitudes: The Meek”

Matthew 5:5; Matthew 18:1-6

This third beatitude would have been _____ and perplexing to Jesus’ original audience.

To uphold meekness was not only totally _____ to their way of thinking, and went against everything the world around them believed and valued, it also challenged a _____ of the people at that time.

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone... For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.” (Isaiah 9:1-7)

Trusting in these words, the people in Jesus’ day eagerly anticipated the _____ of this prophecy—the coming of the Messiah who would deal _____ with them, commending them for their goodness, while at the same time dealing harshly with their oppressors, who for nearly a hundred years had been the Romans.

The fact was that Israel’s history was one of repeated _____ and oppression.

The different groups had very different ideas about what that _____ would look like.

The hyper-religious Pharisees, expected the Messiah to come with great fanfare and a mighty show of _____ power.

The materialistic Sadducees, hoped for change through political _____, for which they were despised by their fellow Jews.

The monastic Essenes _____ themselves from the rest of Judaism, retreating to the wilderness and living as if Rome and the rest of the world didn’t exist.

The Zealots were the most vocal and active proponents of deliverance. Many of them expected the Messiah to come as a powerful _____ leader who would conquer Rome in the same way that Rome had conquered them.

Although the various groups had different views of what Messiah would look like and what He would do, they didn’t anticipate Him coming _____ and humbly.

In spite of all His miracles, the people never really believed in Jesus as the Messiah, because He failed to live up to their _____ of Messiah and He failed to act in military or miracle power against Rome.

The Jews of Jesus’ day had misread and _____ their own Scriptures; and weren’t looking for the Messiah that God had clearly told them was coming.

They disregarded such parts of His Word as Isaiah chapters 40-60, which so clearly and vividly portrays the Messiah as the _____ as well as the conquering Lord.

BLESSED ARE THE MEEK: 3 QUESTIONS

Question #1: _____?
meek = *praos* =

The essential difference between being poor in spirit and being meek or gentle may be that poverty in spirit focuses on our _____, whereas meekness focusses on God’s _____.

Being poor in spirit causes us to turn away from ourselves in _____, and meekness causes us to turn toward God in seeking His _____.

Most of Jesus’ original audience, were focussed on _____ their own ways, defending their own rights, and serving their own ends. This idea of meekness isn’t a _____ idea—it has always been God’s _____ for humanity.

“God sets on high those who are lowly, and those who mourn are lifted safely.” (Job 5:11)

“The Lord leads the humble in what is right, and he teaches the humble his way.” (Psalm 25:9)

“...walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which they have been called, with all humility, and gentleness, with patience, showing forbearance to one another in love.” (Ephesians in 4:1-2)

“...put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.” (Colossians 3:12)

MEEKNESS IS NOT

- Meekness isn't _____.
- Meekness isn't _____.
- Meekness isn't _____.

“He committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in his mouth; and while he was being abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one judges justly.” (1 Peter 2:22-23)

Meekness isn't weakness, however, it doesn't use its power for its own _____ or selfish purposes. Meekness is power completely _____ to God's control.

How do you exercise your strength and power?

Question #2: _____?

The best way to describe meekness is to _____ it or see it in _____.

• Joseph

In meekness, Joseph understood that it was God's place to _____ and his to _____ and help.

• David

David demonstrated meekness, and a surrendering of his _____ and power to God's _____.

• Paul

As he writes in Philippians 3:3, he refused to put any _____ in himself, “in the flesh” and called himself the “_____ of the apostles,” knowing that he could do all things, but only “through Christ who _____ him.” (Phil 4:13)

Do you see this kind of meekness manifested in your life?

Question #3: _____?

- Meekness is necessary because it's required of _____.

“For the Lord takes delight in his people, he crowns the humble with salvation.” (Psalm 149:4)

“Jesus called a child to himself and set him before them, saying, ‘Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like children, you shall not enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself as a child, is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.’” (Matthew 18:3-4)

- Meekness is necessary because it's _____.

“Seek the Lord, all you humble of the earth who have carried out his ordinances; seek righteousness; seek humility.” (Zephaniah 2:3)

“Therefore putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.” (James 1:21)

- Meekness is necessary because we can't _____ effectively without it.

“Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defence to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you; yet with gentleness and reverence.” (1 Peter 3:15)

- Meekness is necessary because only meekness gives _____ to God.

“May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you for the glory of God.” (Romans 15:5-7)

†

inherit = kleronomeo =

One day, Jesus will come to _____ His earthly domain, and those who have become God's children through spiritual adoption—those who are gentle and meek, because they understand their unworthiness and sinfulness and cast themselves on the mercy of God—will _____ that domain with Him.

The promise of the future inheritance itself gives us hope and happiness _____.