

The Gospel of Matthew

The Beatitudes

Mathew 5

**They reflect the character
of the Lord Jesus Christ**

The Beatitudes

Mathew 5

**For I say to you, that unless your
righteousness exceeds *the righteousness*
of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by
no means enter the kingdom of heaven.**

Matthew 5:20

The Beatitudes

Mathew 5

**Character of people who are living in
the Kingdom of Heaven**

**Not the Character of people living
in the Kingdoms of Man**



**Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.
Matthew 5:4**



Blessed are the poor in spirit

Blessed (approved by God)
are the poor (beggarly)
in spirit (spiritual matters)
for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven
(both now and forevermore).



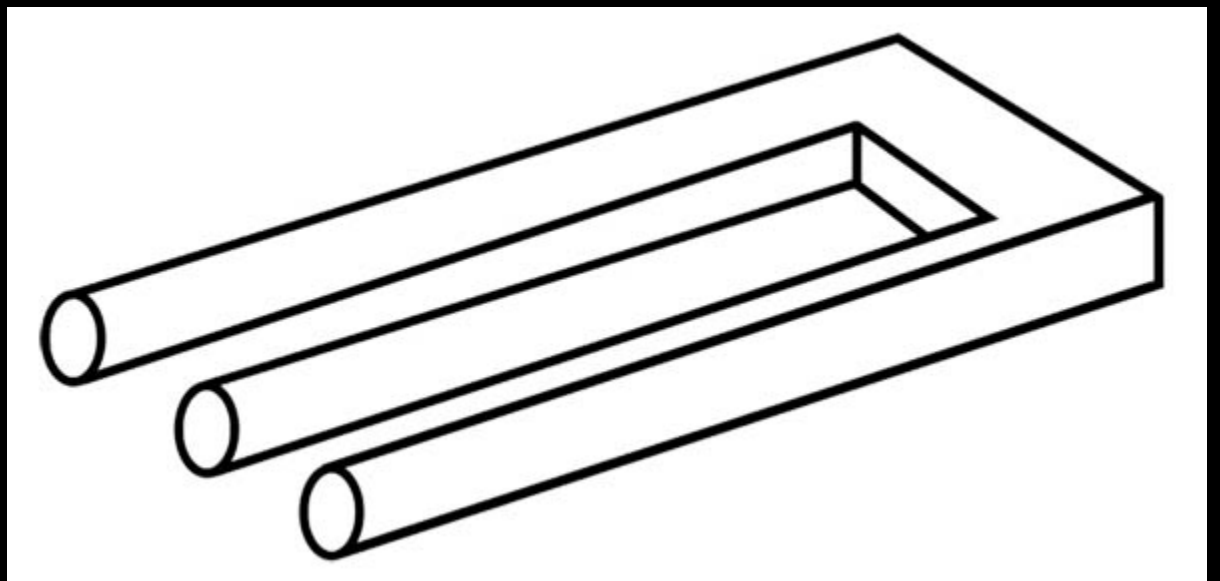
**Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.
Matthew 5:4**



Blessed are those who mourn

**Blessed (approved by God)
are those who mourn
(for sin in their lives and the lives of those who
share with them in the world)
for they shall be comforted.**

Seeming Paradox – Inconsistencies



Seeming Paradox – Inconsistencies

First is last

Giving is receiving

Dying is living

Losing is finding

Weakness is strength

Serving is ruling

The Beatitudes

Mathew 5

Paradox Statements



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



Jesus & Pontius Pilate

- Meek Man
 - Calmness
 - Abandoned prisoner but free
 - In absolute control of the situation
 - Would inherit earth and universe
- Man of Cosmic Pride
 - Restlessness
 - Total power but prisoner to pride
 - Could not control his own soul
 - He had no inheritance

*Blessed are the meek,
for they shall inherit the earth.*

Matthew 5:5



Jesus not only spoke the words, He lived them.



Blessed are the meek

This is the most ridiculed of the beatitudes!

“The meek get ground to the earth!”

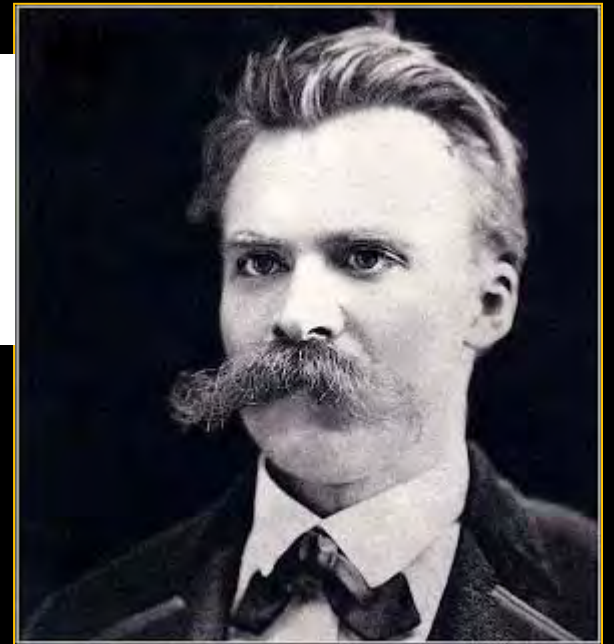


Blessed are the meek

This is the most ridiculed of the beatitudes!

*Assert yourself;
it is the arrogant who take over the earth!*

Friedrich Nietzsche





Blessed are the meek

The meek inherit the earth?

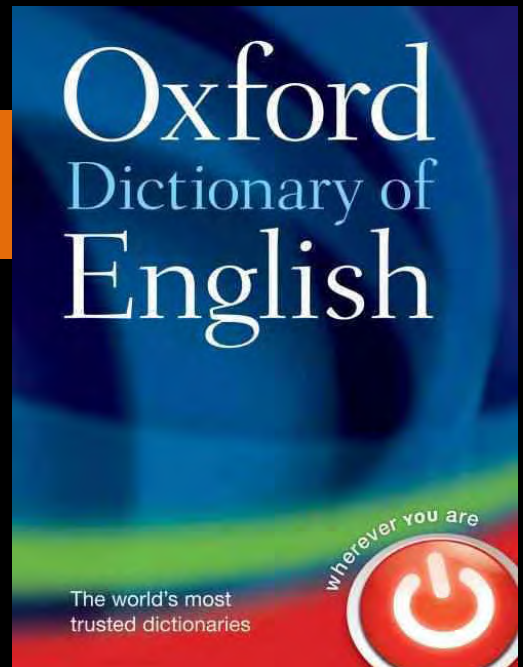
**The Aggressive, Powerful,
Gang Leaders, Mafia,
Military Dictators,
Drug Dealers**



Blessed are the meek

What does meek mean?

Deficient in courage, weak





Blessed are the meek

What does meek mean?

General Consensus

Lack of confidence,
Spineless, Indecisiveness, Shyness,
Attitude of peace at any cost,
Withdrawn, Timid



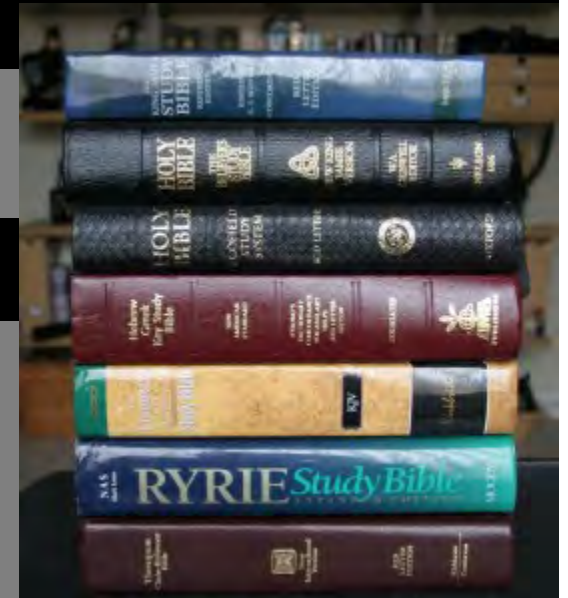


Blessed are the meek

What does meek mean?

Greek word “praeis”

Translated:
Meek, Humble, Gentle



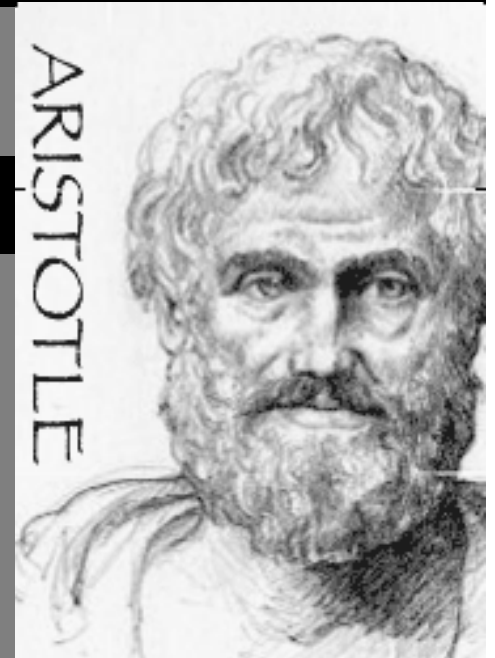


Blessed are the meek

What does meek mean?

The Golden Mean

Point between
Extreme Anger &
Extreme Angerlessness





Blessed are the meek

What does meek mean?

Word Pictures

Tame Animal

Gentle Breeze

Soothing Medicine

Controlled Power

Peloponnesian War Soldier

Wrote of a gift to his fiancée



“...white stallion, most magnificent animal I have ever seen. He responds obediently to the slightest command. He allows his master to direct him to his full potential...He is a meek horse.”



Blessed are the meek

What does meek mean?

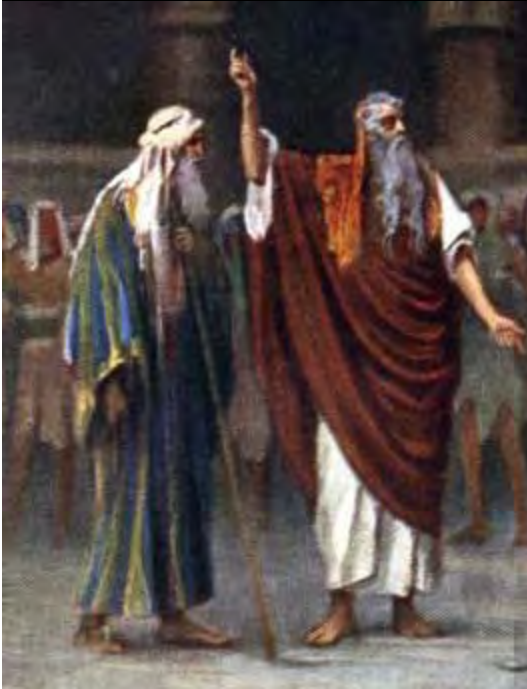
Power under control

Control and Balance

Angry at right time about right thing.

Meekest Man – O. T.

Moses – Numbers 12:3



**Now the man Moses *was* very humble,
more than all men who *were* on
the face of the earth.**

Meekest Man – O. T.



Moses

Pharaoh, Priests of Egypt, Army of Egypt
Murmuring People



Meekest Man – N. T.

Jesus – Matthew 12:18

Behold! My Servant whom I have chosen,
My Beloved in whom My soul is well pleased!
I will put My Spirit upon Him,
And He will declare justice to the Gentiles.

(From Isaiah 42)



Meekest Man – N. T.

Jesus – Matthew 12:19

He will not **quarrel** nor cry out,
Nor will anyone hear His voice in the streets.

(From Isaiah 42)

Meekest Man – N. T.



Before Pilate He
did not
quarrel



How do we show meekness?

All our power under God's control



**Most quarreling
over things of the earth or
selfish wants**



How do we show meekness?

All our power under God's control



Quarreling and fighting
over things
of which you use for a while



How do we show meekness?

All our power under God's control



Quarreling and fighting
over
having our own way



How do we show meekness?

All our power under God's control

We need to place all our wants, plans, desires before the Lord and seek His choices for our lives.

As a loving Father, He wants to guide us.



The Reward?

What is the reward of the meek?

They shall inherit the earth.



The Reward?

Inherit the earth

Psalm 37:1-11,

Psalm 37:16-18,

Psalm 37:21-24,

Psalm 37:27-29,

Psalm 37:34-36



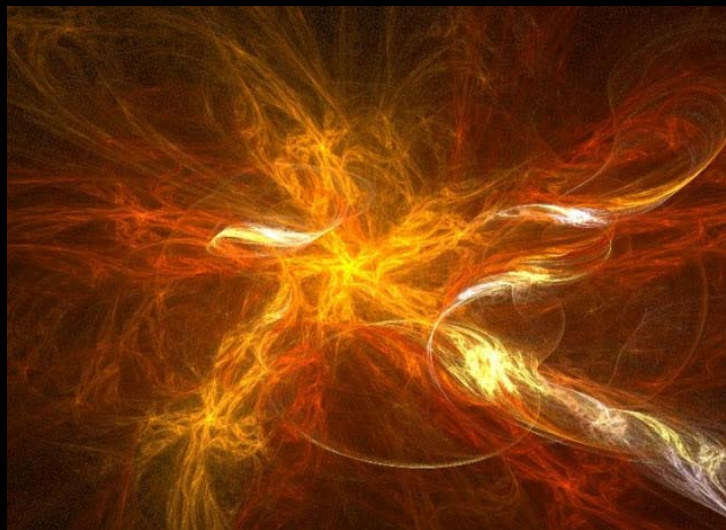
How do we live meekness?

Meekness is not the normal response of the human heart.



How do we live meekness?

1. Ask God for His working in our lives



Fruit of the Holy Spirit
Galatians 5:22



Fruit of the Holy Spirit Galatians 5:22-23

But the fruit of the Spirit is
love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness,
goodness, faithfulness, **gentleness**, self-control.
Against such there is no law.



Fruit of the Holy Spirit Galatians 5:24-26

And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.



How do we live meekness?

2. Learn from the Lord Jesus



Come...Learn from me
Matthew 11:28-30



We Must Come

**Come...Learn from me
Matthew 11:28**

**Come to Me,
all you who labor and are heavy laden,
and I will give you rest.**



Come...Learn from me
Matthew 11:29-30

Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me,
for I am **gentle** and lowly in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls.
For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”



How do we live meekness?

1. Ask God for His working in our lives

Crucify the flesh – Live in the Spirit

Galatians 5:22-26

2. Learn from the Lord Jesus

Link up with Jesus and learn from Him

Matthew 11:28-30



Blessed are the poor in spirit,
For theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.
Matthew 5:3



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Blessed are the meek,
For they shall inherit the earth.
Matthew 5:5

The Beatitudes

Mathew 5

Attitudes that ought to be in the lives
of the people who populate
the Kingdom of Heaven