

Meek, Meek, Merciful

Matt 5:5-7

Chapter 5:5-7

Q: What does it mean to be meek?

Holding back in reserve your reputation and power. Jesus held back. His kingdom was not of this world (Pilate). He could have called legions of angels. (Matt 26:53, John 18:36). Meekness is not weakness.

Q: Who are the best Biblical examples of meekness?

Numbers 12 - Moses the most humble man on the earth - How little he personally did to save the people. He went to God every time. When he struck a rock he got scolded. God gave him authority but what did he do say, "I said this" and "I did that." Instead He said, "Thus says the Lord" and asked God to do the works that He did. He always went to God even though God had called him to the greatest position and showed him by far the greatest miracles of the Old Testament. Paul, John the Baptist and of course Jesus Christ.

Q: How do we evidence meekness?

Again, not relying on ourselves, regarding our reputation as too high. Phil 2:1-9 Think of ourselves as lesser than others. Not false humility but real. Moses is an incredible human example, a man who, given incredible status, I've heard the phrase we are "kings kids," goes to God every time for words and actions.

Q: Inherit the earth? What does that mean?

Honestly, I struggle with what this means in this life. 2 Cor 6:1-10 finishes with the phrase of being poor and yet having everything. We have all that matters in this world, what God gives. That is the true inheritance of this life. In the life to come this is more physical. Here we understand in a more common way what Jesus meant about leaving all things in Mk 10:28-30 because in the life to come we will truly inherit a kingdom, being co-heirs with Christ (Rom 8:17). We will live in the new heaven and new earth and have possessions there even position (1 Cor 6:1-3).

The blessings of God are physical, spiritual and emotional. Having what we need, being peaceful and content, and obtaining eternal life through Christ. This is the best inheritance.

Q: What does righteousness mean?

Being just, justice, "doing right," doing what God wants

Q: Why hungering/thirsting as opposed to other things like chase, run, ask, seek, and knock?

These are natural instincts. The others are decisions we make. These are daily things we can't help. Always hungry, thirsty.

Q: Is hungering and thirsting after what God wants natural?

Hungering and thirsty after what we want is natural. The Bible doesn't say anything for our natural thirst for spiritual things other than we don't have it. (John 3:3-8, 1 Cor 2:14, Gal 5:16-17, Eph 2:1-3)

Q: How does this help us understand John 3:3-8 & 1 Peter 2:1-3?

New birth is required for us to crave and want God and what He wants

Q: So, What does hunger and thirst for righteousness mean practically?

Desire for holiness before God. Actively seek after what God wants.

Q: How often do we do that?

Daily

How do we do that?

Read, Pray, Obey (1 Peter 2:1-3, Hebrews 5:11-14, John 4:32-34, Moses and Jesus survived 40days without)