

LIFE. DIFFERENT.

WHAT IF **GOD** TOOK OVER?

The Mighty Meek

Complete The Sentence:

“A person who is meek is _____.”

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Meek By Definition

Noun: Showing patience and humility; gentle; easily imposed on; submissive.

Adjective: patient, long-suffering, submissive in disposition or nature; humble; spineless or spiritless; compliant.

“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.”

~Matthew 5:5

Meek in the Greek

Meek — *praus* (πραΰς): The perfect balance between two extremes...excessive anger and excessive angerlessness

“To feel anger on the right grounds, against the right persons, in the right manner, at the right moment, for the right length of time.”

~Nicomachean Ethics

Meek in the Latin

Meek — *mitis* (mitigate): An animal that had been domesticated, and was therefore able to be controlled.

“Under control, as opposed to no control or out of control; a horse under the control of the reins.”

Meek in the Hebrew

Meek — *anaw* (אָנָוּ): A person who is happily and humbly under the guidance and the providence of God.

“Knowing and trusting that God’s ways are always best, and will always work for what is good, therefore leaving no room for resentment or bitterness.”

Meekness & the Hebrews

- *“He forgets not the cry of the humble [עָנָו].”*
~Psalm 9:12 (KJV)
- *“The meek [עָנָו] will he guide in judgment: and the meek [עָנָו] will he teach his way.”* ~Psalm 25:9 (KJV)
- *“The Lord takes pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek [עָנָו] with salvation.”* ~Psalm 149:4 (KJV)

Meekness & the Hebrews

- *“Surely He scorns the scornful, but gives grace to the humble [עָנָו].” ~Proverbs 3:34 (NKJV)*
- *“But the meek [עָנָו] will inherit the land and enjoy peace and prosperity.” ~Psalm 37:11 (NIV)*

Principles of Meekness

1. Kingdom Life meekness will shape my response to the external world: To people and circumstances.

“Blessed are those who know how to be angry at the right time and never angry at the wrong time.”

Meekness: Good & Angry

- The meek can get angry, but maintain their goodness —their godliness and their Christian testimony.
- Selfish anger is always a sin; selfless anger can be one of the great change-dynamics in this world.

Meekness: Good & Angry

“A man who cannot be angry, cannot be merciful.”

~B.B. Warfield

“Anger is a divinely implanted emotion ... If you cannot hate wrong, it’s very questionable whether you really love righteousness.”

~David Seamands

Stepping Toward Meekness

- Admit your lack of meekness—repent of either excessive anger or excessive angerlessness.
- Ask God to give you the mind of Christ so you can begin to see things as Jesus did.
- Absorb the Word of God daily through meditation and prayer.

Principles of Meekness

2. Kingdom Life meekness will shape how I manage my internal world: My emotions and impulses.

*“Blessed are those who have every instinct, every impulse and every passion under control.
How joyful are the self-controlled.”*

Meekness: Under Control

Jesus' idea of a meek person is one who has learned to accept control.

- Under the control of the Holy Spirit!
- Under control by self discipline!
- Under control through submission to others!

Stepping Toward Meekness

Having self-control and being Spirit-controlled require brotherly accountability.

- Christian accountability is both a product of and a producer of Biblical meekness.
- Submitting our emotions and impulses to the Holy Spirit and offering God a self-disciplined life are only catalyzed by accountability to other believers.

Principles of Meekness

3. Kingdom Life meekness will shape how I relate to the eternal world: It produces confidence in God.

“Blessed are those who place complete trust and offer perfect submission to God in all of life’s circumstances.”

Meekness: Trust

- Kingdom Life meekness expresses itself in Job-like responsiveness to life's difficulties.

*"The Lord gives, and the Lord takes away.
Blessed be the name of the Lord."*

~Job 1:21

Meekness: Trust

- Kingdom Life meekness reflects a Mary-like attitude in response to the confusing ways of God.

“I am the Lord’s servant, may your word to me be fulfilled.”

~Luke 1:38

Meekness: Trust

- Kingdom Life meekness declares a Jesus-like submission to the unpleasant providence of God.

“Not my will but your will be done...into your hands I commend my spirit.”

~Luke 22:42, 23:46

Stepping Toward Meekness

The tranquility of stability comes from knowing and entrusting my life to the Heavenly Fathers' care and competence.

When I surrender to God in child-like trust, this world becomes a perfectly safe and satisfying place for me to be—even when it doesn't look like it.

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