



Embracing the Past in a New Way

“Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.” Matt 5:5

From **Rocco A. Errico**’s book **“Treasures from the Language of Jesus”** (pages 17-19):

The Meek

TOOWAYHON LMAKEYKEY; DHENON NERTOON ARAA. “Blest are the meek, for they shall inherit the land.” Matt. 5:5, Aramaic text. Jesus uttered these words to the newly formed group of followers who had just drawn near to him and his small circle of apostles. Seeing that these people were gentle, he immediately responded to that quality of gentleness with his blessing. They knew the ancient Eastern proverb which said “the meek shall inherit the land,” but they never dreamed the Messiah-Christ would recruit the meek for his kingdom; he would surely look for the strong, the cunning, and the forceful. They were to learn, however, that the kingdom of God was not to be enforced by man-made laws, militarists, dictatorships, or by philosophies that rely on might and force. This kingdom was to manifest from the radiance of the soul, i.e. the forces of spirit.

“Meekness” is a quality of God’s Presence in humanity which all too often lies dormant. To awaken this latent quality and encourage its growth, Jesus blessed it. He knew that the meek are free of the anger which often initiates disputes and violence. Landowners in the East, for example, prefer to lease their farms and vineyards to the meek because they are reliable and not troublemakers. Also, when a man dies or is killed in battle, leaving no male heir, his property is given to the deserving meek.

From Neil Douglas Klotz’s book **“Prayers of the Cosmos”** (page 54):

“Healthy are those who have softened what is rigid within; they shall receive physical vigor and strength from the universe.”

This third Beatitude was translated, “Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.” L’makikhe could be translated as “the meek” (as was done from the Greek), but the Aramaic would say “gentle” or “humble.” Behind these words, the old roots carry the meaning of one who has softened that which is unnaturally hard within, who has submitted or surrendered to God, or who has liquefied rigidities, heaviness (especially moral heaviness), and the interior pain of repressed desires.

Nertun can mean “inherit,” but in the broad sense of receiving from the universal source of strength and reciprocity. In this case, softening the rigid places within leaves us more open to the real source of power – God acting through all of nature, all earthiness.

From Elizabeth Sand Turners book “**Your Hope of Glory**” (pages 91-92):

Meekness, spiritually considered, is an attitude of receptivity to the divine will. Jesus was meek when he said, “Not as I will, but as thou wilt.” Meekness is a willingness to surrender to God and a confidence that His way is the better way. When the Christ expresses through us, we have power over external conditions (the earth).

Here is a question: What concept do you have of someone who is meek? Shy? Weak? Timid?

Is it a positive concept, like the person being flexible, pliable, open-minded? MEEK is not WEAK!

Emmett Fox was a contemporary new thought teacher to Myrtle and Charles Fillmore – our co-founders. In 1934 his book on the Sermon on the Mount (The Beatitudes) was published. In his words on pages 30-31 he says:

The true significance of the word “meek” in the Bible is a mental attitude for which there is no other single word available, and it is this mental attitude which is the secret of “prosperity” or success in prayer. It is a combination of open-mindedness, faith in God, and in the realization that the Will of God for us is always something joyous and interesting and vital, and much better than anything we could think of for ourselves. This state of mind also includes a perfect willingness to allow this Will of God to come about in whatever way Divine Wisdom considers to be best, rather than in some particular way that we have chosen for ourselves.

From Reverend **Eric Butterworth’s** book “**Discover the Power Within**” (pages 61-63):

Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

Considered from the human standpoint this statement, or promise, is ridiculous. It is most certainly the aggressive and not the meek who inherit and possess the earth. In fact, the average individual has many discouraging moments when he broods on the great injustices of life, because “they” always seem to get the breaks.

Some have thought that Jesus is talking about a future millennium when these things would come to pass, when the quiet and timid will have the upper hand, and the aggressive and overbearing will be rendered impotent. However, Jesus insisted that “The kingdom of heaven is at hand.” His teachings always dealt with the now of experience.

Actually, Jesus is not talking about “meekness” as an approach to people. He is referring to an attitude toward God. Jesus was meek toward God. He knew that “I of myself can do nothing.” He recognized that He was just a simple carpenter’s son, who had found His spiritual unity with God, and in this discovery He had tapped the secrets

of the Universe. But He knew that the miracle-working power that was not His came not to Him but through Him. As long as He was in tune, He could do all things.

The great tenor, Roland Hayes, always used to pause for a moment of quiet with eyes closed when he faced his audience for the first time in a concert. He was once asked by a reporter what he was doing. A humble man, Hayes was hesitant to reveal his secret. But eventually he admitted that he was praying. When asked what he prayed about, he replied, "I just get quiet and receptive and say, 'O Lord blot out Roland Hayes, that the people may hear only thee.'" That is the meekness that compels God.

The Greek word, *praeis*, which we translate "meek," has the connotation "tamed," from the standpoint of harnessing that which is wild and unrestrained. Niagara Falls is an example of raw and unrestrained power. Tremendous forces are involved as the Niagara River dashes madly over the Falls. This vast energy was wasted for millions of years until we built several large power plants to harness the power for electricity. Today the Falls have been "tamed" as the water turns great turbines to generate electricity for many Eastern cities.

Meekness is a sensitiveness or surrender of consciousness to the influence of something when Jesus says "Blessed are the meek" He doesn't mean a surrender to people, but to God. The best conductor of electricity is the substance that is least resistant to the flow of the electric current. Likewise, the best conductor of the divine power is the person who is nonresistant to the flow of divine power. This attitude comes from the conviction that God is always the answer to human needs, and a willingness to submit wholeheartedly to the flow of the spirit in and through us.

The man who is "fighting for his rights" is working in the wrong way. The only way to be sure that we get our "rights" in life is to "plug in" and let the divine activity of light and love express through us to do things in the right and perfect way at the right and perfect time. The artist, the composer, the scientist, the researcher – all demonstrate this attitude of meekness toward the law, toward the inner source of ideas. Einstein said that great ideas came to him after he had relaxed and ceased from strenuous search for his objective. The meek or receptive mind invites God-ideas.

The meek consciousness is not self-centered. It is God-centered. It is humble in the recognition of human limitations but confident in the conviction of divine resources.

Realize that the great source of wisdom is intuition, the great source of vision is insight, the great source of power is innate spiritual power. Work diligently to get this consciousness of meekness which is the "taming" or harnessing of your inner potential – and you will become a master in your field. You will "inherit the earth."

Ideas for Practice:

This month I invite you to observe your power flow. Open a space to identify places where you sense a power struggle – at home
with family members
at work
with friends

As Eric says, "...the best conductor of divine power is the person who is nonresistant to the flow of divine power. This attitude comes from a conviction that God is always the answer to human needs, and a willingness to submit wholeheartedly to the flow of the spirit in and through us...The meek consciousness is not self-centered. It is God-centered." (page 63).

Breathe and check it out – where are you in your center? Consciously call on God's presence and stand in God's power which is always greater than...

Affirmation: *"I am in tune with God - that which is God-inspired and God-directed shall prevail."*