

He that hears THESE sayings

- Mt 7:24-28

- **Hear** these sayings of Mine and **does them**:

- Like a wise man who built house on rock

- did not fall because it was built on the rock

- **Hear** these sayings of Mine and **does not do**:

- Like a foolish man who built house on sand

- it did fall because it was built on sand

- Since “*these words of mine*” are considered the foundation upon which to build, what are we doing to be certain our life is built on them?

Blessed Are ...

- to regard someone as happy or fortunate in view of favorable circumstances – used by Greek speaking people to show honor and praise for success, happiness and contentment.
- They attributed it to beauty, wealth, power, athletic ability, mental achievement, or even good fortune were praised with this term.
- The honor that secular things bring to man in this world, Jesus used to motivate in the spiritual.

Blessed are ... The Meek

- *Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth. Matt 5:5*

What does it mean to be Meek?

- Translating from one language to another is generally a simple process.
- An idea conveyed by a word in *Greek* is identical to that of another (*English*).
- But what if there is no word? What if the concept in one culture doesn't fully fit that in another?
- This was the problem with "*meeek*."
- Since Paul defines inspiration as the original terms being chosen by the Holy Spirit only when we know its exact meaning

The Greek Word Definition - Vines

- The meaning of *prautes* “is not readily expressed in English, for the terms meekness, mildness, commonly used, suggest weakness and pusillanimity to a greater or less extent, whereas ***prautes* does nothing of the kind.** Nevertheless, it is difficult to find a rendering less open to objection than ‘meekness’; ‘gentleness’ has been suggested, but as *prautes* describes a condition of mind and heart, and as ‘gentleness’ is appropriate rather to actions, this word is no better than that used in both English Versions.

The Greek Word Definition - Vines

It must be clearly understood, therefore, that the *meekness manifested by the Lord and commended to the believer is the fruit of power.*

The common assumption is that when a man is meek it is because he cannot help himself; but the Lord was 'meek' because he had the infinite resources of God at His command.

Described negatively, meekness is the opposite to self-assertiveness and self-interest; it is equanimity of spirit that is neither elated nor cast down, simply because it is not occupied with self at all. (Vine's Expository Dictionary)

- The word is “*not readily expressed in English*” because the English words “mEEK” and “mild” “suggest weakness, or as we would put it acting like a sissy or a wimp.
- The word “*mEEKNESS manifest by the Lord and commended to the believer is a fruit of power.*” Power is carefully controlled, never misused.
- Greeks used this for a powerful / spirited horse that is slowly broken just enough that none of the spirit or strength is lost, but he will always allow himself to be controlled by the rider.

Moses – The meekest Man on Earth

- *And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Cushite woman whom he had married; for he had married a Cushite woman. 2 And they said, Hath Jehovah indeed spoken only with Moses? hath he not spoken also with us? And Jehovah heard it. 3 Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men that were upon the face of the earth. Num 12:1-3*

Moses – The meekest man on earth

- *Suddenly the Lord said to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam, "Come out, you three, to the tabernacle of meeting!" So the three came out. 5 Then the Lord came down in the pillar of cloud and stood in the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam. Num 12:4-5*

Moses – The meekest man on earth

• *And they both went forward. 6 Then He said, "Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the Lord, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream. 7 Not so with My servant Moses; He is faithful in all My house. 8 I speak with him face to face, Even plainly, and not in dark sayings; And he sees the form of the Lord. Why then were you not afraid To speak against My servant Moses?" Num 12:5-8*

Yet This was the Moses

- At the golden calf became angry and ground the calf up and made them drink the water.
- When seeking water struck the rock instead of speaking to it and saying “shall **we** bring you water.”
- The first was meekness because it was for God
- The second was a breach of meekness only for self out of frustration.

A Comprehensive Definition

- “*prautes*... “mild and gentle friendliness,” is the opp. of roughness... of bad temper, or sudden anger... and brusqueness... It is close to the *epieikeia* which tempers stern law... Among the Greeks gentle friendliness is highly prized as a social virtue in human relationships... The systematic thinker Aristotle places *praotes* as... a mean between *orgilotes* (“anger,” “bad temper”) and the spineless incompetence of *aorgesia*... Since he sets a positive value on justifiable and moderate anger, mildness is for him, with *euorgeton*, the laudable mean between the extremes of anger and indifference...” (Kittel, Vol 6 p 645-646)

Meekness in Context

- *Brethren, even if a man is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; {each one} looking to yourself, lest you too be tempted. Gal 6:1*
- *I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, entreat you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing forbearance to one another in love, Eph 4:1-2*
- *with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, 2 Tim 2:25*

Meekness in Context

- *Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom. James 3:13*
- *but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence; 1 Pet 3:15*
- *Put on therefore, as God's elect, holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, longsuffering; Col 3:12*
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Jesus was also Meek

- *Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. Mt 11:29*

Taming and Subduing

- Those who are meek have learned to meekly submit God's commands for they are always right.
- *Wherefore putting away all filthiness and overflowing of wickedness, receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. James 1:21*
- Such meekness comes of a deep conviction of who we are:
- *I know, O LORD, that a man's way is not in himself; nor is it in a man who walks to direct his steps. Jer 10:23*

Tamed and Subdued

- *Thus says the LORD, “Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches; but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD who exercises lovingkindness, justice, and righteousness on earth; for I delight in these things,” declares the LORD. Jer 9:*

An Incorruptible Beauty

- *rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God. 5 For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands, 6 as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror. 1 Peter 3:4-6*