

CHRISTIAN MEEKNESS

Matthew 5:5

Introduction: It is recognized that Christianity far surpasses all other faiths in doctrines and such but few are aware of just how much Christianity excels in principles of conduct. For instance, dealing with enemies, where revenge has exalted people to some sort of deity in the minds of some, in Christianity, it is the "meek" and yielding spirit that prevails even though it has been thought that "meekness" is a sign of weakness, and therefore is avoided by many. Nevertheless, "meekness" is what the Lord commands His followers to have and therefore they will be rewarded with what is really "true" happiness.

I. CHRISTIAN MEEKNESS DESCRIBED

1. Christian meekness is not some mild, gentleness which some seem to have even from their childhood.
 - It is a meekness based on a sorrow for sin, something which the Holy Spirit brings upon the believer. (*Galatians 5:22-23*)
 - It is an attitude of bowing before and submitting to God to handle the "situation."
2. Christian meekness is expressed in one's conduct toward God.
 - In meekness, one no longer argues with God's Word or gripes about God's dealings with him/her.
 - Whatever God requires, in the meek Christian's eyes, appears to be right.
 - Whatever God does, even though it may not be understood at that moment, is wise and good.
 - Instead of objecting to anything God says, commands or does, is received with meekness.
3. Christian meekness is expressed in one's conduct toward others.
 - He/she is courteous.
 - In the same situation of not being a Christian where one's actions would be harsh and rough, Christian meekness will be expressed and the reaction will be different.
 - As a parent, one is more tender and more kind.
 - As a community member, one is cooperative, amiable, modest and willing to help others.
 - *"...No brawler, but gentle, showing all meekness to all men..." (Titus 3:2)*
 - He/she is patient.
 - Many non Christians are irritable and hard to please most of the time. They are like a sea tossed and agitated by the wind.
 - Christian meekness is not easily provoked, *"...is slow to wrath, knowing that the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God..." (James 1:19-20)*
 - He/she is forgiving.
 - Although he/she may receive injuries like others, he/she will not resent them as others do.
 - He/she knows that he/she is *"...not to recompense evil for evil unto any man, but heap coals of fire on the head of his/her enemies..." " ...Instead of being overcome of evil, he/she strives with all his/her might to overcome evil with good..." (Romans 12:17-18)*
 - The rule of "meekness" which the Christian tries to follow is the rule which the Lord Jesus followed and that is *"...we are not to forgive once, or even seven times, but seventy times seven..." (Matthew 18:21-22)*

II. THE MEEK CHRISTIAN ENJOYS BLESSINGS OTHERS DON'T

1. It is well known that most troubles that come to people are brought on by themselves by their ungoverned attitudes, tempers, etc., when things could be peaceable, reasonable, they mess things up with their attitudes and anger, nothing seems to satisfy or be right.
 - To an impatient, fretful person, everything becomes a source of trouble and aggravation.
 - The problem lies not without the person, but within.
2. The meek person, instead of anger, attitudes temper, etc., cuts off occasions and reasons for such distress and by kindness and courtesy, disarms any adversary and turns away wrath.
 - Such a meek person goes through life with half the troubles that others have.
3. The meek person is affected by troubles that do come.
 - A large, sturdy oak tree may have branches torn off in a storm and even be uprooted while the slender, tall reeds in the same storm, bend and sway, sustaining no injury at all.
 - Thus the meek, submissive Christian bears up under the same trials and difficulties that others do who are unable to endure, but the Christian endures and comes out unhurt.
4. The meek person is more peaceful in his/her own mind.
 - The conscience of the meek person is more at ease and at peace than those who are not meek.
 - The meek person's relationship with the Lord is much more enjoyed.

CONCLUSION:

1. *"...Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth..." (text)*
2. Everyone chooses how to act and react to situations in life.
 - Those who choose to be like the Lord Jesus, meek, gentle, mild, patient, humble, thoughtful of others, etc., have less anxiety and less difficulties in life.
 - Those who are not meek, not like the Lord Jesus are completely opposite in response, reaction and in handling life's difficulties.
3. So, the choice is YOUR'S, which shall it be?