

Lessons From the Sermon of Jesus on the Mountain Part 4

“5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth:” (Matthew 5:5 KJV)

The Lord had promised blessedness to those who are meek. He promised that they shall have the material and the spiritual blessings. The meek are not living their lives in order to get material blessings but they are living their lives to please God. When the Lord would see that their lives is for Him, then He will be the one who is going to give them not only the material blessings but the spiritual blessings that He promised.

How many of you are longing to receive God's blessings? If your answer is yes, then you ought to be meek.

The meek are not those who are poor. The meek are not those who are weak. There are many poor people and there are many who are weak and has no power, but they are not meek. In the same manner there are many who are rich and there are many who are powerful but they are meek.

To measure the person if he is meek give him money and give him power, then watch how he will behave, then you will know if He is meek or not. Many people they will be changed once they will have money and they will become arrogant once they will get power; their head will become big and their talk will become rude; they will be high nose, then it will be clearly known and seen that they are not meek.

It is a great challenge for us this Word of Jesus to be meek; in other word to be blessed is to be meek.

The meek are those who have power, and who has money but still they will do willingly what God wants them to do. Christ our Lord and His Word set us a good example of how we ought to live meek.

Christ set us good example of how to live as meek: ***“5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth.” (Philippians 2:5-10 KJV)***

“5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 2:5 KJV) The mind set up is very important for the conduct to be changed. Let us follow the example of Jesus and learn from Him how to be meek.

1. Jesus made Himself of no reputation: “6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men.” (Philippians 2:6-7 KJV) Jesus is God who appeared in the flesh, and is correct for Him to be equal to God.

He is God the Son, and He is the Son of God, but He made Himself of no reputation. *Many are they who have and carry big titles today, but they are not doing what their titles tell. The servant of God they earn their titles by their service that they are giving to God and to the people.*

2. Jesus took the form of servant: “But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men.” (Philippians 2:7 KJV) *Many are not willing to be servants. They want to climb the ladder from the top. That is why you found God allowing them to go down to the bottom. The meek are willing to start from the low position and the Lord would promote such kind of people.*

Many who study and got high qualification so they will get a better job with higher salaries, and so they can go to a better places. That is why now you see the trend of people they migrate to the rich, famous and powerful countries, with their high qualification, but praise be to God they end up working as security guards, salesmen in supermarkets or workers in gasoline stations.

If you will not behave as meek, God knows how to deal with your pride.

Joseph when his brothers threw him in the pit and later on sold him to be finally a servant in Potiphar house, he started from the scratch, he served as servant but God promoted him, and he reached to be the overseer of the house with the service he provided. He was meek to accept humiliation and injustice and hard work. God saw his toil and rewarded him for his meekness. As well as on the second time when he was put down by potiphar's wife, he did not defend himself, but the Lord looked to his meekness and gave him success even in the prison, and finally God brought him out from prison to be the second man in Egypt after Pharaoh.

If you will behave as meek, God knows how to promote you and brings you up.

3. Jesus was willing to take the infirmities and the limitations of man: “But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men.” (Philippians 2:7 KJV) Many they are ashamed of their body limitations and capabilities. That is why you found them putting makeup, wearing expensive dress, buying expensive mobiles, expensive eye glasses, and spending much just to cover up their limitation and to put themselves in a figure of high position. It is all about convincing people but not God. *These all come from pride and if you will behave in the same way, then you don't have meekness and you will not have the blessings of God.*

4. Jesus humbled Himself: “And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.” (Philippians 2:8 KJV) No one forced Jesus, no one controlled Him, and no one reminded Him of what He needed to do. God did not struggle with Him. Jesus did not need to face troubles and trials in order for Him to humble down. *The meek will spontaneously humble themselves and they don't need external power to humble them down. The meek will do spontaneously what God wanting from them to do.*

5. Jesus obeyed what was so painful to do: “And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.” (Philippians 2:8 KJV) The meek are those who are willing to obey what is so painful to do. The most painful for man to do is to swallow his pride. People they run to the best colleges, best countries, best opportunities not because they are after God, but they are after their own pride that they are serving. But let us be reminded that God opposes the proud but He gives grace to the humble, “But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.” (James 4:6 KJV)

When Jesus successfully passed through all these stages of being meek, the Lord exalted Him, “Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name.” (Philippians 2:9 KJV) God gave Him a name which is above every name, “That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth.” (Philippians 2:10 KJV) Therefore, and in the same way if we will humble down God will lift us up.

The meek are those who are not easily provoked to become angry because they can see clearly that God is near to them and He is in their lives, “4 Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. 5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.” (Philippians 4:4-5 KJV) The meek are able to control their anger and their mood and attitude when they are confronted with abuse and injustice. The meek can easily see that God is at hand and beside them.

The meek are those who patiently bear the injury and the pressure of life and the trials. They can easily forgive others and see from trials new opportunities for them to live for God and to pursue what He had planned and ordained for them to pass through. “Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.” (Colossians 3:13 KJV) Let us be meek, and be willing to forgive those who ill treated us and those who are still ill treating us.

The meek are not envying other people and desire their things. They are not after opportunities to gain worldly things. They are not covetous people. Many people they do lot of things driven by their pride, envy and jealousy from others. But the meek will not do such miserable things. Joseph’s brothers driven by envy to sell Joseph, “And the patriarchs, moved with envy, sold Joseph into Egypt: but God was with him.” (Acts 7:9 KJV) Jesus was handed over to Pilate out of the envy of the Pharisees, “For he knew that for envy they had delivered him.” (Matthew 27:18 KJV) Those who have envy are not meek people.

The meek are humble, and are willing to associate with people of low position. “Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.” (Romans 12:16 KJV) The meek they cannot see there are social barriers between them and other people who are less in them in material things and in positions.

Let me ask you the following questions:

How many of you today are doing good things for God?

How many of you have good plans that you think you will do good things for God?

Now let me tell you the truth: God does not want you to do good things for Him but God want you to do what He wants from you. God is never interested with the good things that you are doing, but God is keen to see you doing the very thing, the very task, and the very goal that He asked you to do for Him.

The Bible teach us things and inform us examples of people who did not do good things according to today world standard, but they did exactly what God had asked them to do for Him. The following are some of these examples:

A. Jeremiah was asked not to marry: “1 The word of the LORD came also unto me, saying, 2 Thou shalt not take thee a wife, neither shalt thou have sons or daughters in this place.” (Jeremiah 16:1-2 KJV)

B. Jeremiah was asked by God to buy a land from his uncle that he would not use and even he would not see: “6 And Jeremiah said, The word of the LORD came unto me, saying, 7 Behold, Hanameel the son of Shallum thine uncle shall come unto thee saying, Buy thee my field that is in Anathoth: for the right of redemption is thine to buy it. 8 So Hanameel mine uncle's son came to me in the court of the prison according to the word of the LORD, and said unto me, Buy my field, I pray thee, that is in Anathoth, which is in the country of Benjamin: for the right of inheritance is thine, and the redemption is thine; buy it for thyself. Then I knew that this was the word of the LORD.” (Jeremiah 32:6-8 KJV)

C. Isaiah was asked to walk bare buttocks and barefoot for three years as sign of God’s judgment on certain nations: “1 In the year that Tartan came unto Ashdod, (when Sargon the king of Assyria sent him,) and fought against Ashdod, and took it; 2 At the same time spake the LORD by Isaiah the son of Amoz, saying, Go and loose the sackcloth from off thy loins, and put off thy shoe from thy foot. And he did so, walking naked and barefoot. 3 And the LORD said, Like as my servant Isaiah hath walked naked and barefoot three years for a sign and wonder upon Egypt and upon Ethiopia; 4 So shall the king of Assyria lead away the Egyptians prisoners, and the Ethiopians captives, young and old, naked and barefoot, even with their buttocks uncovered, to the shame of Egypt.” (Isaiah 20:1-4 KJV) God in verse 3 called Isaiah “my servant Isaiah,” because he obeyed and did exactly what God had told him. How many of you today want God to say about you that you are His servant?

If you delight to hear God says about you that you are His servant, then you need to do what God had asked from you to do.

D. Ezekiel was asked to sleep on his left side for 390 days and on his right side for 40 days and eat a cooked meal over cow manure that he needed to prepare before hand for himself, and to drink a certain amount of water: “1 Thou also, son of man, take thee a tile, and lay it before thee, and pourtray upon it the city, even Jerusalem: 2 And lay siege against it, and build a fort against it, and cast a mount against it; set the camp also against it, and set battering rams against it round about. 3 Moreover take thou

unto thee an iron pan, and set it for a wall of iron between thee and the city: and set thy face against it, and it shall be besieged, and thou shalt lay siege against it. This shall be a sign to the house of Israel. 4 Lie thou also upon thy left side, and lay the iniquity of the house of Israel upon it: according to the number of the days that thou shalt lie upon it thou shalt bear their iniquity. 5 For I have laid upon thee the years of their iniquity, according to the number of the days, three hundred and ninety days: so shalt thou bear the iniquity of the house of Israel. 6 And when thou hast accomplished them, lie again on thy right side, and thou shalt bear the iniquity of the house of Judah forty days: I have appointed thee each day for a year. 7 Therefore thou shalt set thy face toward the siege of Jerusalem, and thine arm shall be uncovered, and thou shalt prophesy against it. 8 And, behold, I will lay bands upon thee, and thou shalt not turn thee from one side to another, till thou hast ended the days of thy siege. 9 Take thou also unto thee wheat, and barley, and beans, and lentiles, and millet, and fitches, and put them in one vessel, and make thee bread thereof, according to the number of the days that thou shalt lie upon thy side, three hundred and ninety days shalt thou eat thereof. 10 And thy meat which thou shalt eat shall be by weight, twenty shekels a day: from time to time shalt thou eat it. 11 Thou shalt drink also water by measure, the sixth part of an hin: from time to time shalt thou drink. 12 And thou shalt eat it as barley cakes, and thou shalt bake it with dung that cometh out of man, in their sight. 13 And the LORD said, Even thus shall the children of Israel eat their defiled bread among the Gentiles, whither I will drive them. 14 Then said I, Ah Lord GOD! behold, my soul hath not been polluted: for from my youth up even till now have I not eaten of that which dieth of itself, or is torn in pieces; neither came there abominable flesh into my mouth. 15 Then he said unto me, Lo, I have given thee cow's dung for man's dung, and thou shalt prepare thy bread therewith. 16 Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, behold, I will break the staff of bread in Jerusalem: and they shall eat bread by weight, and with care; and they shall drink water by measure, and with astonishment: 17 That they may want bread and water, and be astonished one with another, and consume away for their iniquity.” (Ezekiel 4:1-17 KJV) This is a real incident and not just a fable. Ezekiel was asked by God to lie on his side left side 390 days and then on the right side 40 days, and he was asked to prepare very simple food from grains on cow manure. He was asked to use 6 kinds of seeds for his food, “Take thou also unto thee wheat, and barley, and beans, and lentiles, and millet, and fitches, and put them in one vessel, and make thee bread thereof.” (Ezekiel 4:9 KJV) If you are led by the Holy Spirit, collect these kinds of seed and cook that meal and see the test, and if you can manage eating that everyday for 430 days.

The food and drink were rationed by weight and the amount was less than the intake of a normal man. He was asked by God to eat 20 shekels per day which is equal to 228.4 grams, and he was asked to drink one-sixth of a hin which is equal to 611 milliliters. The prophet obeyed the Word of God; he obeyed also to be restricted in movement, “*And, behold, I will lay bands upon thee, and thou shalt not turn thee from one side to another, till thou hast ended the days of thy siege.*” (Ezekiel 4:8 KJV) He obeyed the method that God instructed him to prepare his food and he obeyed to eat and drink the certain amounts that God described. I am not telling that we need to eat and drink less but we need to be sensitive to the pattern of life that God would like us to live.

What is the point in indulging in gluttony? But rather live and eat based on the pattern of life that God would like us to live. Ezekiel could have lived and eaten better, but he abided by the instruction of God so that he could convey the message of God in a clearer way to the people around him. People who are meek will be faced by challenges that they need follow certain things God had told them to follow that contradict the people custom; being meek they would rather prefer to follow God's instruction and what He wants from them to do for Him.

Meek people they will listen to God but the arrogant they want God to listen to them, “38 Now it came to pass, as they went, that he entered into a certain village: and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house. 39 And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word. 40 But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me. 41 And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: 42 But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.” (Luke 10:38-42 KJV) The meaning of Martha, is “She was rebellious.” And the meaning of Mary, is “Their rebellion.” We are in rebellion if we will do our own and without going back to God. We will be in rebellion if we only listen and don't do. We will be obedient and meek if we will be listening and doing. So we are really needs to humble down at the mighty hands of God, then He will lift us up and He will reward us as He is seeing us meek in attitude and behavior.

My dear and beloved: There are people who are obviously living like Martha, they don't listen to God's Word, they don't come to church and they are doing their own, but there are people who listen regularly to God's Word, they come to church, but if they are listening and not doing then they are not meek and the same as those who are not interested to listen to God's Word. Many when they will listen to God's Word, they will say ‘Yes, yes,’ and they will node their heads, but later on they go and they don't do. Then they are not meek and they are not obedient.

Jesus said, “42 But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.” (Luke 10:42 KJV) The prophetic Word of Jesus about Mary has power and it will take place. Even though the meaning of Mary is “their rebellion.” Jesus is seeing that Mary will obey, Jesus is seeing that Mary will become meek. Even today, Our Lord Jesus is in the mid of our meeting and He is seeing you, that you will obey, He is seeing the Church of God, the congregations of the church and each and every member, me and you are meek, we are going to obey, and had chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from us.

Today God is putting in front of us challenges. God had put Jeremiah, Joseph, Isaiah, Abraham, Mary, Jesus in front of challenges, and they were meek and did what God wanted from them to do. We in the same way let us prove our meekness by making ourselves of no reputation, taking the form of a servant, willingly taking the infirmities and the limitations of man, humbling ourselves, being obedient up to point accepting to do the very thing that God, the Creator is asking from us to do.

My Prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the death on the third day to give me eternal life.*

Lord forgives me my sins _____.

Let us confess and renounce our sins to the Lord. Let us confess and renounce all our pride and arrogance and all our rebelliousness and non willingness to do what the Lord is requesting from us to do.

Lord I thank you for your clear Word to me that explains to me how to be meek. Lord I am willing to follow the example of Jesus, to make myself of no reputation, taking the form of a servant, willing to take the infirmities and the limitations of man, humbling myself, being obedient up to the point accepting to do the very thing that You wants me to do.

Lord makes my life testimony pleasant to you and makes me a good example to others that they can see clearly my meekness and my willingness to follow your example. Lord protects me and provides all my needs. Lord fills me with the Holy Spirit and gives me the spiritual gifts that I need in my life to go on to preach the gospel of Jesus and to comfort others who are in need of your Word.

Lord I pray for my Brothers and Sisters who had humble themselves before you; Lord protect them and provide all their needs. Lord fills them once again with the Holy Spirit so they can go and do what you asked from them to do.

Lord I pray for us as a church to go on in serving you and do your work and your will. Lord let your Word for us today on this message transform us, and make us the meek people of yours that you wants us to be, so others can see you through our lives. Lord enables us to evangelize and to reach new people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and with the Word of God. Lord we pray that you will enable us to plant new Bible studies and new congregations for the church. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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