

I. Review

- A. Jesus starts the SOTM with 8 aspects of His bridegroom heart that He longs to impart. He imparts these heart conditions to us in order for us to share in deep intimacy and love with Him. As we enter into this deeper degree of friendship, we experience increasing levels of abundant kingdom life in our inner man.
1. Blessed are the Poor in Spirit – The reality of entering into poverty of spirit is the foundational aspect of entrance and experience in the Kingdom of God. Jesus desired intimacy with His Father and chose to become fully dependent upon Him for everything, as the way forward.
 2. Blessed are those who Mourn for the Kingdom – Once someone experiences or sees the kingdom, they start to recognize the disparity between the current age and the coming kingdom age. This causes a constant dissatisfaction and mourning in our soul until the kingdom comes. Jesus displayed this constantly in His teaching and action, and told us He would mourn for it until He comes again to establish it fully and permanently upon the earth.

II. Blessed are the Meek, for they shall Inherit the Earth

- A. When poverty of spirit cries out in need for God, He comes to fill us, and increases His grace to us. His grace abounds to us and we see the disparity between Jesus, and His Kingdom, and our own reality. Then an unquenchable mourning stirs within us for His Kingdom to come. Out of our longing for the Kingdom, we become established and settled in our eternal place in His coming Kingdom. The heart condition of meekness then manifests - we begin to walk in the eternal nature and prospective of our new identity and destiny.
1. Meekness is generally misunderstood and misrepresented as timidity, weakness, or quiet personality style - it is none of those things. Meekness is a glorious character trait of the heart of our bridegroom God. Our inheritance, as His bridal partners, is to have His meekness formed in us.
 2. The definition of biblical meekness is the restraint of strength or power, for the accomplishment of redemptive purposes. Meekness can only be manifest through an individual who possess strength and power, while weakness is the lack or absence of strength and power. Meekness is not being patient or yielding when we have no power to resist, but rather it is yielding to the one who is resisting you. In the scriptures, the words meekness, humility, and gentleness are used interchangeably.

Meekness is the most supernatural gift to humanity, and thus the most resisted out of all of Heavens gifts. – Allen Hood

- B. Meekness Resisted – Once again, we are faced with an extreme opposite of the natural mindset of our humanity. Our humanity says - if you want the world, you take it. The way you take it is through your strength and ability. The history of humanity is an undeniable statement that we resist the grace of meekness. Instead we assert, express, and organize our power to achieve our goals.
1. Violence – The strong defeating the weak and the powerful oppressing the powerless is the story of humanity. The absence of meekness resulted in the worldwide flood and God intentionally shortening the lifespan of man. Increasing violence then leads to unchecked perverse practices to the level where God’s last option was to destroy entire cities and people groups to keep wickedness from infecting the entirety of creation. (Gen. 4:8, 6:5,11-12; 14:1-4,12, 19:12-13; Rom. 1:18-32)
- C. Meekness Embraced – The Jewish people awaited a Messiah who would install a worldwide governmental reign. How surprised they were, when the Messiah arrived on the scene and declared to them “the meek would inherit the earth”. It is the meekness of Jesus that is our surety of eternal worldwide peace and equity for humanity. Rather than exalting Himself over the weak He uses His strength to exalt and lift them up to safety. (Ps. 37:9-11; 72:8-14; Is. 2:2-4, 9:6, 32:16-18, 42:1-4)

Take my yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light. (Mat. 11:28-30)

1. Just like all the other beatitudes, Jesus walked in meekness because He is meek in His nature. Our eternal assuredness of eternal peace comes from of the reality of an unchanging God. In Jesus’s own description of Himself, along with countless displays of Him serving the weak and poor of the earth, we encounter the sweet aroma of meekness. (Mk 10:42-45; Jhn. 13:2-5; Phil. 2:3-11)
2. In His darkest hour – In His perfection, Jesus refused to exploit the weakness of humanity for His own gain, even when it meant saving His life. He covered us with meekness. He allowed himself to be bound, tortured, and shamefully crucified by people who, unless He allowed them, had no ability to even breathe. All the while, meekness and love were covering our sin and divine power was held back for the higher cause of righteousness. (Mat. 26:47-53; Jhn 18:5-8; Jhn 19:10-16; Lk. 23:33-37)

You have given me the shield of Your salvation; Your right hand has held me up, Your gentleness has made me great” (Ps. 18:35)