



To Be A Transforming
Community Committed
To Jesus Christ

SERMON STUDY NOTES

4th August 2019
Speaker: Martin Armstrong

Blessed are the meek for they will inherit the earth.

Matt 5:5

1. Meekness is not weakness: it can be defined as "*strength under the control of God.*" The word was used in bible times to describe a wild stallion that had been broken in. An animal that was very powerful, but had submitted to human control. Instead of running wild, it was teachable, cooperative, quiet & useful. Who in the bible would you describe as being meek.
2. Brian Zahnd believes that here Jesus is saying: *Blessed are the quiet and content, the humble and unassuming, the gentle and trusting who are not grasping and clutching, for God will personally guarantee their share when heaven and earth become one. Do any parts of this describe you? With which parts to you struggle the most?*

3. Psalm 37:39–40. *The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD; he is their refuge in time of trouble. The LORD helps them and rescues them; he rescues them from the wicked, and saves them, because they take refuge in him.*

Are you able to allow the Lord to take control of your life, your emotions and your behaviour? At what times are you most severely tested? Share an occasion when the Lord rescued you from a hopeless situation?

4. Our fear can control us and influence our behaviour. A meek person is able to continue to go God's way even when under intense pressure, persecution, danger, or need. Share the testimony of a missionary leader who suffered intense difficulty in this regard?

5. Certain birds & hamsters that have lived for long periods in a cage, just sit & tremble with fear, if you take them out of their cage. They don't know what to do: their security is gone. Other birds and animals that are used to being free, will die if you put them in a cage. Which one best describes you?

6. As we negotiate the road of life, the Holy Spirit, puts warning signs up along the road ahead...He speaks to us, leads and warns us in the same way that we drive safely by obeying the road signs: *slow down for this corner, watch out! You're coming into a danger zone.* What are some of His warning signs to you?

7. Meekness is being like Jesus. Jesus is described as meek in Matt 21:5. He rode a foal that had not been broken in into Jerusalem. The image here is not of Christ controlling, whipping or holding us against our will. But of Him harnessing our ability! God has no desire to dominate us. God respects of our free will, our unique circumstances & maturity. Discuss this and pray that each of you will grow in meekness.