Meekness Characteristic of Strength Under Godly Control Roger Kendall—May 14, 2016

What does it mean to be meek? This is a word or a term that many people in the world—and perhaps many in the Church—may not clearly understand what it means to have a meek characteristic. As we all know, meekness is a fruit of God's Holy Spirit (Gal. 5:23).

We know that meekness is an attribute of God Himself. Meekness is a very character of God, and this a quality or characteristic that we as the saints of God need to possess and grow in, as we grow in all the fruits of the Holy Spirit.

It's important for us to understand what it means to be meek, and how we can grow in this very important fruit of God's Holy Spirit. We're going to go into detail of this particular fruit of God's Spirit.

Most people in the world today have a misconception about the meaning of this world, and they associate it with weakness, that meekness means being weak. Nothing could be further from the truth! This is a characteristic that Christ Himself applied to Himself in Matt. 11. Christ was meek! He certainly was <u>not</u> weak!

Matthew 11:28: "Come to Me, all you who labor and are *overly* burdened, and I will give you rest." There's a lot in this particular Scripture. Christ is the Source of our comfort. He is our High Priest and we can go to Him and we can approach Him for our needs and He is there to help us.

Verse 29: "Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me; for <u>I am meek</u> and lowly in heart; and you shall find rest for your souls. For My yoke *is* easy, and My burden is light" (vs 29-30).

Moses is also described, Numbers 12:3: "Now the man Moses was <u>very meek</u>..." Meekness is a characteristic that you wouldn't associate with Moses; he was a prophet of God, full of courage and strength and *he was not weak!* Christ, of course, was anything but weak.

What is the correct understanding of what it means to be meek? We're going to search out today what it means to have the character or fruit of meekness, specifically the attributes or characteristic of one who is meek.

Matthew 5:5: "Blessed *are* the meek, for they shall inherit the earth." Here meek can ba associated with being humble in spirit. But notice what Christ said here. He didn't say that blessed are the mighty and powerful, that they are going to inherit the earth. Christ said that *the meek*_are going to inherit the earth. So, meekness is a characteristic of one who is going to rule with Christ, because this is referring to the firstfruits inheriting the earth in the kingdom. This is characteristic of kings and priest who will rule with Christ in the Millennium. This is a very important element that we need to truly understand and appreciate.

Meekness is a characteristic that provides great character strength. It is an attitude of mind. It's how you relate to other people, and how you relate to God. It's an attitude, but it's an essential characteristic of one who is there to serve, to provide for the needs of other, who is teaching God's way, as well as to lead to people to repentance.

That's a lot in there! We're finding that this characteristic is essential for one who is a leader, for one who has been given responsibility to help bring other people into knowledge and understanding.

Paul brings out this very characteristic of meekness. It's a quality and characteristic that leaders need to have if they're going to be effective in leading and guiding people in the way of God!

2-Timothy 2:24: Now, it is obligatory *that* a servant of *the* Lord not be argumentative, but **gentle** toward all, competent to teach, forbearing, in meekness correcting those who set themselves in opposition..." (vs 24-25). These are other terms that Paul uses that basically encompasses some of the very elements of what meekness is:

- gentleness of spirit
- competent to teach
- no argumentative

These are all conditions or elements of what it means to be meek.

Verse 25: "In meekness correcting those who set themselves in opposition if perhaps God may grant them repentance unto acknowledging of *the* Truth."

This is a quality of one who is leading people into the Truth of God.

Definition of *meek*; Webster's Dictionary:

1. to endure injury or insult with patience and without resentment

So, it shows an attitude of someone with kind of a mild demeanor.

- 2. submissive in spirit with mild temperament
- 3. not having strength; weak, lacking courage

Many people associate meekness with being weak.

Some of these elements in Webster's Dictionary has some bearing on the meaning on what it means to be meek, but there are also some elements here that do not agree with the Biblical meaning of meekness.

From a Biblical point of view, if you read certain messages where it says *meekness*, you're really not going to grab hold of the real meaning of the word. The reason being is that meekness is a multifaceted word. It has different elements or aspects of what it means to be meek.

In fact there are several different attributes that we'll be going over later on. It's interesting that William Barclay, in his commentary of the Scriptures, stated that *meekness* is one of the most difficult words to translate from the Hebrew or Greek into English, because there is no single word in English that truly describes and denotes what meekness is about. Therefore, what Barclay brings out is that the word is best understood in the context in which it is used. Sometimes that works and sometimes it does not work.

Let's see how the word used: In the Old Testament the Hebrew word translated into English as *meekness* is from the Hebrew 'anah' meaning *humble, lowly, to abase oneself, gentleness* and *to be afflicted*.

There's a lot in there, and that's why there are so many aspects of this word. Again, this is the context of what it means in the Old Testament. The word also conveys the idea of *submission*. Some of the elements of the dictionary definition was correct, but of course, are lacking. Let's look at some examples in the Old Testament regarding this word, where it's used:

Zephaniah 2:3: "Seek the LORD, <u>all you</u> <u>meek of the earth who have executed His</u> <u>judgment</u>; seek righteousness; seek meekness. It may be that you shall be hidden in the day of the LORD'S anger."

It's associated with someone who is aligned with God, somebody who is meek is pleasing to God, one who is walking in the way of righteousness.

Psalm 25:9: "The meek He will guide in judgment; and the meek He will teach His way." *Being humble!*

In this particular verse it shows an attitude of being *teachable*. This is a person is going to be led in God's Truth, who basically is not going to be proud or arrogant, but is going to be soft-hearted and looking to be taught by God. This gives us kind of an insight into the use of the word.

Isaiah 57:15-here we don't see the word

meek being translated, but it does give an expression of submission and humility, which are basically of what meekness is all about. This really describes meekness.

Isaiah 57:15: "For thus says the high and lofty One Who inhabits eternity; Whose name *is* Holy; 'I dwell in the high and Holy place, even with the one who is of a **contrite and humble spirit**, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones" This particular Scripture of what it means to be meek.

In the New Testament we find that the word that is translated *meekness* in English from the Greek is 'praos': *meekness*, *gentleness*, *humble*, and also *mild mannered relative to self-control*. In other words, you're not reactionary. You don't jump to conclusions in terms of getting upset or angry under circumstances; controlling the emotions.

We're looking at trying to get a bigger and better picture of what this word really means in terms of how we can better apply it to our own growth and our own situation.

James 1:21: "Therefore, having rid yourselves of all filthiness and all *the* abounding of wickedness around you..." This is part of being cleansed, being converted. We are striving to change, overcome and grow in the very nature of God.

Once we've done that, James says, "...**then** in meekness accept for yourselves the implanted Word, which *is* able to save your lives" (v 21. *In meekness accept the Truth of God!*

So, it's an attitude of mind where we look to God as being the Source of Truth, of being a help, of being a tremendous aid in growing and learning, and of course, His Word, which teaches us Who and what God is, and helps us to better appreciate what we need to be doing. It's an attitude of mind where we accept God's Word and we begin to work with the Word of God to change ourselves.

2-Corinthians 10:1: "Now, I Paul am personally exhorting you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ. On the one hand, when present with you I *am* base... [humble] ...but on the other hand, when absent I am bold toward you." This particular use of meekness is associated with being gentle, kind and sensitive, but also is an element of humility, and at the same time showing power.

It's power that's under control. That's one of the things we're going to be looking at. These are some of the examples of how meekness is used in the Old and New Testaments. Now I would like to go to four specific attributes of meekness and expand on these attributes so that we all can get a better understanding of this fruit of God's Spirit.

What is the key word that you would normally think of when you think of meekness.

Attributes of Meekness:

1. <u>Humility, being humble</u>

You don't find humility listed in the fruits of the Spirit, but you do find meekness. It's almost interchangeable, so therefore, *meekness produces a spirit of humility: attitude in mind!* That you basically abase yourself, not being proud or arrogant; not thinking more highly of yourself than you ought. To recognize that that you need to also esteem others.

There's this element of humility as the key aspect of what it means to be *meek*. Godly meekness, however, is impossible to gain until a person recognizes his own weaknesses, his own sins and his own shortcomings, and is willing to repent and change. If you still grab on to the fact that you are big and important and basically full of yourself, there's no way you're going to grow in meekness or especially to be humble.

Humility of the opposite of being proud. Humility neutralizes pride, and we all have pride to deal with. That's why meekness is a very important fruit that we negate or neutralize the idea of pride and arrogancy and conceitedness that we all need to deal with. That's part of our carnal nature; it's there. We always have to fight, I believe, our pride!

What if somebody comes up to you and says. 'You should of done this, that or the other thing.' What do we do? *We rise up in defense! 'That's not true!'* You always want to be argumentative, you want to support your own position. *That's pride!*

Meekness is a little different. It basically takes that in stride and recognizes that they want to hear what's being said and apply it to themselves so that they can grow. So, you turn it around.

A meek person will abase himself in Godly sorrow when it comes to recognizing his own sins. Then, because of that, to seek out God for repentance and be restored back to worshipping God in Spirit and in Truth.

This very situation is exemplified in Luke 18 where we read the parable of the situation that Christ brought out regarding the Pharisee and the publican. Here we see the example of one who is proud and arrogant \underline{vs} the one who had a meek and humble spirit.

Luke 18:9: "And to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others, He also spoke this parable... [Christ speaking to the disciples] ... 'Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one *was* a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed with himself in this manner...'" (vs 9-11)—prayed to himself; talking to himself, not to God, just speaking out loud so people could hear. The Pharisees kind of talked out loud to show their own importance.

"..."God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unrighteous, adulterers or even as this tax collector.... [he just put himself right at the top of the elite. 'I'm elite, important, very good'] ...I fast twice in the week, *and* I give a tithe *of* everything that I gain"" (vs 11-12). Very self-righteous!

Verse 13: "And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat himself on *the* chest, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner. I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself shall be humbled; and the one who humbles himself shall be exalted" (vs 13-14).

This is pretty profound and really reveals the element of pride, but also shows what a meek spirit will produce. It will produce a repentant heart, one who recognizes his own shortcomings and his need for God. We see this very same theme being given by James.

James 4:6: "But He gives greater grace. This is the reason it says, 'God sets Himself against *the* proud, but He gives grace to *the* humble." That's exactly what we just read in Luke 18 regarding the publican and the Pharisee.

Verse 7: "Therefore, **submit** yourselves to God... [an element of being meek] ...Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God... [He is the Source of strength and power] ...and He will draw near to you...." (vs 7-8). This shows how events occur; God doesn't necessarily draw to you until you drawn near to Him *first*.

"...Cleanse *your* hands, you sinners, and purify *your* hearts, you double-minded! Be grieved and mourn... [this can include fasting] ...and weep; let your laughter be turned into grieving, and *your* joy into mourning" (vs 8-9).

What this means is that when we focus on our sins and our shortcomings we realize just how bad sin is and our need to change. It should cause us to grieve and to seek help.

The way that we seek help is, v 10: "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will exalt you." Humble yourself through prayer, submitting to God, seeking repentance, obeying God in meekness.

One who is meek submits himself to God,

out that you put others ahead of yourself. So, it's God first, other are second. Where does that put you? *You're the other!* Paul brought this out very clearly.

Philippians 2:3: "Let nothing be done through contention or vainglory..." What is vainglory? When you're walking around thinking that you're pretty good! Vanity! Notice what Paul says, 'Don't do that! Don't walk around as some peacock' that you have great things going your way.

"...but **in humility**, each esteeming the others above himself.... [in other words this is an element of meekness] ...Let each one look not *only* after his own things, but *let* each one also *consider* the things of others" (vs 3-4).

Putting others ahead of yourself: people who are in need, who need our prayers, who are having difficulties. Do you pray for yourself first? <u>or</u> Do you pray for others first? When I go to God in prayer, I want to be filled with enthusiasm and zeal for Him and ask for a good spirit so that I can pray well, and then hopefully I will pray for others and seek God's intervention for them.

Verse 5: "Let this mind be in you, which *was* also in Christ Jesus." This is a key Scripture, because it points out how we can become meek. By putting in the very attitudes and the mind of Christ. He was meek and lowly in spirit. Therefore, He was humble, and looked to the needs of other and put others above Himself when He came as our Savior and died on the cross for every single human being who were His enemies. *He died for His enemies! Therefore, He put others ahead of Himself!*

As we read on in Philp. 2 we can truly see the very humility of Jesus Christ, v 6: "Who, although He existed in *the* form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God." He was God, with God before He became our Savior, born of woman.

Verse 7: "But emptied Himself, *and* was made in *the* likeness of men, *and* took the form of a servant." He went from being the Mighty God, the Word, and He gave up all His nature of God to become a man.

Verse 8: "And being found in *the* manner of man, He humbled Himself, *and* became obedient unto death, even *the* death of *the* cross."

Here again is one of the key examples of meekness that Christ showed; laying down His life for the sake of all humanity.

Matt. 18 gives us an excellent example of how Christ taught the disciples what it means to have humility or meekness. Let's see the example of the children coming up around Jesus, and at that time the disciples asked Jesus, 'Who is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven?' *They were looking for accolades to find out who was going to be high mucky-muck in the Kingdom of God!* After calling a little child to Himself, Jesus set him in their midst.

You can picture that here are all these grown men standing around with Christ in the middle with this little child, probably four or five years old.

Matthew 18:3—Jesus said, "...'Truly I say to you, unless you...'"—meaning all the disciples, you're thinking you're going to get some great reward. Jesus didn't say that, but that was the implication.

"...are converted and become as little children, there is no way that you shall enter into the Kingdom of Heaven. Therefore, **whoever shall humble himself as this little child,** he is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven" (vs 3-4).

This is an example that Christ used to point out what it means to have a humble, meek attitude. Why is a small child an example of this? *Think about it!* The child is humble because they're totally dependent upon their parents. They have no strength, no power, no influence, are teachable and submissive (most of the time) and obedient. They don't have any power. A little child is just naturally submissive and humble.

Brethren, this is the same characteristic that we need to have in our lives. Have a humble spirit like a little child, so that we can look to God the Father as a Source of our needs and all the things that we have. Look to Him for the thing things we need and to praise God and give thanks to Him for all that He gives to us. We give glory to God for all that we have! Give God the glory, not ourselves!

If some good things come to you, give God the glory and praise that you have these things. It wasn't because of your greatness or power, but because God blessed you!

Humility is a key element of what it means to be meek. I think we all can appreciate that one.

2. Meekness is a quality that leads us to *submit* to God's will and not our own will

As we find in the daily prayer outline, Matthew 6:10: "Your kingdom come; Your will be done on earth, as *it is* in heaven." In prayer we say, 'Your will be done!'

Someone who is proud and arrogant is going to be wanting to do more of his will, his purpose, rather than focus on God's will. So, this is something that I want to bring out. Being submissive to God and submissive to other people who have needs and we can interact with is an important element of what it means to be *meek*.

A meek person is not self-driven. What do I mean? A self-driven person has goals and aspirations that they want to accomplish, and they don't necessarily line up with what God would have you be doing! In other words, you have your ideas, and you want to do it, accomplish it; you want to be this or that, you want to have this or that thing. It's selfishness! Meekness is also an element that will do away with selfishness, self-centeredness, which is contrary to what it means to be meek.

Psa. 119—Although meekness is not mentioned here specifically, the elements of meekness—of submitting and yielding God—is shown.

Psalm 119:33: "**Teach me**, O LORD, the way of Your statutes, and I shall keep it unto the end. **Give me understanding**, that I may keep Your Law and observe it with all my heart" (vs 33-34).

We can see an element of submission, humility, of seeking God for His knowledge and wisdom.

Verse 35: "**Make me to walk in the path of Your commandments**, for I delight in them." So, we see the attitude of joyfully coming to God to receive from Him the Truth.

Verse 36: "Incline my heart to Your testimonies, and not to covetousness.... [not to our own selfish desires] ...Turn away my eyes from seeing vanity; give me life in Your way. Fulfill Your Word to Your servant, so that You may be feared" (vs 36-38).

Again, many places we can see the element of meekness being expressed, although not particularly stated as such.

Doing God's will and fulfilling *His purpose* in our life is what establishes ones goals and aspirations to agree with God's purpose and His will. That's the element of meekness that we should definitely embrace.

Romans 12:2: "Do not conform yourselves to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind..." I was just speaking to someone here today that the world today is insane, it is not real. There is so much illusion and deception everywhere you turn, on any aspect that is in the world. It is but a false charade in so many different ways. It's full of sin, greed, lust and perversion!

Verse 2: "Do not conform yourselves to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind..." we read in Philip. 2:5 that we renew and transform our mind to become more like Jesus Christ. Why?

"...in order that you may prove what *is* well pleasing and good, and **the perfect will of God**" (v 2). The way that we can do that is to think more like God thinks, to really study His Word and then we can begin to put our mind and focus on what God is doing: His will, His purpose, to truly do that what God would be pleased with.

Jesus Christ had a complete trust and confidence in God's will, as He walked the earth. He submitted Himself to God's will as an essential element of how He operated and conducted Himself. Let's see that Christ was submissive to the Father's will! We're to be like Christ, so let's look at His example:

John 4:34: "Jesus said to them, 'My meat is to do the will of Him Who sent Me, and to finish <u>His</u> work"—'not My work; I came to do God's will, to accomplish the purpose that I was sent.'

His food was the very essence of what kept Him going, kept Him alive and His very focus to do God's will! So, it's a pretty profound way of saying that.

John 6:38: "For I did not come down from heaven to do My own will, **but the will of Him** <u>Who sent Me</u>. And this is the will of the Father Who sent Me: that *of* all whom He has given Me, I should not lose any, but should raise them up in the last day. And this is the will of Him Who sent Me: that everyone who sees the Son, and believes in Him, may have eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day" (vs 38-40).

Here we see a very key Scripture in knowing what God's will is for us. It is summarized in a very clear-cut fashion, that we all come to fruition and that we reach eternal life in the Family of God. That being the will of God, it behooves us to fulfill that will by doing our part, that is the growing, overcoming, the changing, taking on the very nature of God through the fruits of the Spirit.

To summarize: commitment and submission to God's will is a sign of true meekness; also being submissive to other in a right way. In other words, you're not to be a doormat, but on the other hand you're not to be arrogant and rise yourself over other people just because you have the power and means to do so.

3. Meekness is an attitude of gentleness and kindness

A person who is meek will demonstrate a gentle and kind spirit toward others that will tend to encourage, lift up and to inspire. It's so easy sometimes when someone comes along and maybe 'rubs you the wrong way' to respond in a harsh critical way. Again, it's something we all need to overcome. It's why there's so much road-rage out there. Somebody comes along and does something and it just kind of tilts the emotional meter on its side and you go berserk!

Having a mild spirit toward gentleness and kindness when something happens you basically don't resort to being hardheaded or being hardhearted. In other words, you're gentle and kind toward other people in all circumstances; not when things are going good, but when things are going badly. That's when it really shines like light in a darkened room. God wants us to be

- soft-hearted
- gentle
- merciful to others
- ready to serve and help in a spirit of uplifting and encouragement

We can see this element of meekness being expressed by Paul:

Ephesians 4:1: "Therefore, I, the prisoner of *the* Lord, am exhorting you to walk worthily of the calling to which you were called with all humility and meekness... [here we see humility tied to meekness] ...with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; being diligent to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (vs 1-3).

What we see Paul focusing on is unity, peace, patience, humility and these are elements that entail a kind and gentle spirit.

One who is meek does not hold grudges. He doesn't have a bad attitude and easily offended toward other people, but is quick to forgive their trespasses. This goes along with love. So, meekness is tied to having a proper attitude of love toward somebody else.

Colossians 3:12: "Put on then, as *the* elect of God, Holy and beloved, deep inner affections... [deep caring love] ...kindness, humility, meekness *and* long-suffering; forbearing one another, and forgiving one another if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so also you *should forgive*. And above all these things *put on* love, which is *the* bond of perfection" (vs 12-14).

This Scripture focuses on the elements of having a kind and gentle spirit that conjures up peace, being gentle, forbearing and forgiving others their trespasses.

- What should be our attitude we find a brother who is in a fault or sin?
- What should be our attitude?
- What should be our approach?

Do we feel spiritually superior? *Oh, I would never do that!* It's like you put yourself above your brother. What does Paul teach us relative to this situation:

Galatians 6:1: "Brethren, even if a man be overtaken in some offense, <u>you who are spiritual</u>, <u>restore such a one in a spirit of meekness</u>, considering yourself, lest you also be tempted." In other words, we should consider our own state before we are critical and condemning someone else for committing a sin. *For by the grace and the very help of God, so go 1!* That should be our attitude.

Our attitude and approach to someone who has a problem, if we can help them do it in a manner like you're setting a broken arm. In other words, you don't go in there and start moving things around and being tenacious. Be gentle and kind and try to help your brother to understand and to move forward, seek forgiveness and to work reconciliation if that's needed. You do so in an element of peace and being very sensitive to the need that your brother has.

Simple acts of kindness and providing the real needs of others by serving, caring, sharing and helping others is a true example of what it means to be meek.

The example of the 'good Samaritan' (Luke 10:30-37). He was the one who came along after... He was hated by all the Jews in the local... because he was an outlander. He came across this Jewish individual who was beaten up by thieves and what did he do? *He took the Jew on his own animal, carried him off and took care of him!* He had compassion. He saw a need and he filled it. That's what meekness is about.

Meekness is to fill needs with gentleness and kindness, rather than just walking along as if you didn't see the problem. Meekness is a spirit of gentleness and kindness that is reflected in the way you deal with your fellow human beings.

4. Meekness is a characteristic of one who has strength and power, but that strength and power is under Godly control

Not under self-control, meaning from human nature and carnal nature! Meekness does not mean weakness, it refers to a person who controls his power and strength to serve unselfish needs, and to serve God.

An example is like a horse, a powerful stallion that is controlled by a bridle and a bit. In other words, the bit and bridle is the meekness part that controls the power of this horse. That's meekness! Meekness does not mean weakness, it means *power strength that is under Godly control!*

That strength and power is used for unselfish purposes, it is used to serve the needs of others. Meekness has to do with maintaining selfcontrol in the face of temptation to use your power and strength in other ways.

- God gives us strength!
- God gives us power!

It's by His strength that we're able to accomplish all things in our lives (Eph. 6:10). Our strength comes from God! God gives us strength and power to see how we are going to use it. If we use it in a way of meekness that is under His control, that He knows that we're going to be responsible as we grow in the character of God, looking to the Kingdom of God!

Christ demonstrated meekness and selfmastery—self-control—when He was tempted by Satan the devil in the wilderness. This is an interesting situation. Christ has fasted for 40 days and 40 nights, so he was hungry. All human strength was gone and here comes Satan and says,

Matthew 4:4: "...'**If** You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.""

A prideful, arrogant reaction would be, 'What do you mean IF I am the Son of God. I'll show you how much bread I can make out of these rocks.' Christ did not do that.

Verse 5: "But He answered *and* said, 'It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of *the* mouth of God."" In other words He defended and refuted Satan by the Word of God, not by His own power and strength that He had.

He could have done that in spades, but that would have been sin and He would have been agreeing with Satan. He did not do that; He controlled Himself.

In two more cases Satan tempted Christ and both times Christ answered in a way where He had total self-control of the power that He had to serve the true purposes of God. He did it in a manner that showed that He didn't serve Himself; *He served the purpose and the will of God*!

God gives us a little strength now, so we're in training. God wants to know how we are going to use the power and strength that we have now, as we deal with other people, in the Kingdom of God. The way you deal with other people with power; say you're a boss over other people at work, how you deal with them is reflective of what we're talking about here.

The more that Christ grows in us, the more we take on His nature, the more we will grow in

meekness. Jesus Christ is kind, gentle, humble and is full of meekness. *Meekness is a spiritual gift from God* that we need to ask God for more of it, and grow in this particular quality, this fruit of the Spirit, because we need to prepare for the work that we're going to be doing in the Kingdom.

In conclusion, I hope this message has been helpful in better understanding what it means to be meek and how we can grow in this very fruit of God's Spirit. Meekness is a fruit of God's Spirit and we must develop it now if we are going to rule with Christ. That's something we need to develop, to understand what it is and how to apply it:

- to be humble in spirit
- to submit and yield to God's will
- to be gentle and kind
- to serve the needs of others
- to be teachable
- to use the power and strength that God gives us in a way that is according to His will and to the purpose of others

Let us prepare now by growing in meekness so that we can go on and fulfill our destiny in the Family of God!

Scriptural References:

- 1) Matthew 11:28-30
- 2) Numbers 12:3
- 3) Matthew 5:5
- 4) 2 Timothy 2:24-25
- 5) Zephaniah 2:3
- 6) Psalm 25:9
- 7) Isaiah57:15
- 8) James 1:21
- 9) 2 Corinthians 10:1
- 10) Luke 18:9-14
- 11) James 4:6-10
- 12) Philippians 2:3-8
- 13) Matthew 18:3-4
- 14) Matthew 6:10
- 15) Psalm 119:33-38
- 16) Romans 12:2
- 17) John 4:34
- 18) John 6:38-40
- 19) Ephesians 4:1-3
- 20) Colossians 3:12-14
- 21) Galatians 6:1
- 22) Matthew 4:4-5

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Galatians 6:23
- Luke 10:30-37
- Ephesians 6:10
- RK:bo

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