

The Meek Shall Inherit the Earth

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*“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

*Blessed are those who mourn,
For they shall be comforted.*

*Blessed are the meek,
For they shall inherit the earth.*

Matthew 5:3-5

Jesus taught us His children that the meek shall inherit the earth. This small portion of the beatitudes seems to resound even more powerfully than some other passages, but we should know the whole passage in our hearts. It is His introduction for us to the Kingdom. This teaching from the Sermon on the Mount is no platitude, but is a theological truth and a statement of fact. Those who are meek in heart, who follow God, who humbly submit to His path in Christ, will truly inherit the earth. This actual earth. This earth will be filled with a godly, meek, covenant people in Jesus Christ and the wicked will be gone.

True, there is only an ultimate and perfect fulfillment of this teaching after the resurrection, but there is fulfillment in this time as well, as we can see the path that God has given the meek brings fruitfulness, and the way of the wicked brings destruction. That is all throughout Holy Scripture. Therefore, it is a very practical and imminent teaching, even if it resounds far off in the future heavenly kingdom as well. Perhaps this teaching is no more exemplified than in the family, and how submitting to our roles in being parents, spouses, and raising godly children brings forth a future for the Church, a people who are yet to be born. The meek, who are not weak but rather humble and sacrificial people, will inherit the earth through their offspring.

In counterpoint to this, is what Christians currently see around them, at least in this western world. The nation is filled with unbelief; the children depart far from the ways of their parents, and if they continue in faith it is a faith that has been stripped bare. The country itself cannot sustain its population because of few births, and has to import more people -- perhaps import the meek -- just to have laborers in its future. Children are viewed as a burden and not a blessing. Parents abort children because they get in the way of future plans. Christians today furthermore

see a western culture that openly mocks God, and alienates them from society, casting them as second class citizens who cannot practically live their faith, or demonizing them as complete outcasts. How have the meek then, inherited the earth? Why do the heathen continue to rage?

Believe it or not, there are practical ways to answer that, and the answer is not foggy. You do not need to be an expert, a sociologist, or a diviner to discern how we see the godless inheriting the West, and not the meek inheriting their own land. One bold reason for this is the family and education. The Christian, even when a sincere believer, has rejected marriage for the purposes which God gave it. He has rejected accepting the children God gives man and wife – demanding few rather than many children – and has sent his children to be trained by secularists, modern day pagans in the schools. Christians, who are horrified by the utter brainwashing of their children, and their gradually disappearing future in the West, need to look at their own not very meek behavior for the answer – they have rejected God’s teaching on marriage and the family. Now is the time to reverse that.

Meek people accept the sacrifice of children, and do not assume they need many luxuries, the highest education level, and a solid professional station in life. They accept modest, simple living. Meek people are willing to spend the years of their life, much hardship and effort to raise children, rather than prevent children from being born so that they can make more money. Meek people accept the godly calling for women to bear children and care for the home, and do not chase after the glitter and false light of two salaries, and dream fulfillment. Meek people follow God. They wait on the LORD.

It bears returning for a moment to take a look at what Jesus refers to when He teaches that the meek shall inherit the earth. While there is much to be said on this subject, let’s just look at the Psalm Jesus was likely referencing with His teaching. That is Psalm 37, which says in part:

*For evildoers shall be cut off;
But those who wait on the LORD,
They shall inherit the earth.*

*For yet a little while and the wicked shall be no more;
Indeed, you will look carefully for his place,
But it shall be no more.*

*But the meek shall inherit the earth,
And shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.*

(Vs. 9-11)

The meek are those here who wait on the LORD, on Yehovah. They are faithful to His commandments. They trust in Him. The meek do not seek after the way of the heathen, nor practice idolatry, nor lose their trust in God's covenant promises. They know God will fulfill them. They do not doubt God's will for them or His character. They continue to follow the Yehovah, and eventually the wicked are cut off, and the meek will inherit the earth. There will be a godly delight, and great peace. The meek will inherit all of this just by waiting on God and being faithful. The wicked will not inherit anything, as they will be destroyed. There was no war. But the good guys won.

You almost see an exact echo of that in our surroundings here today. The secularist, along with the worldly Christian, would naturally wipe himself out. Between their hatred of marriage, their rejection of children, and their open paranoia about population disaster, we are not going to see as many of them in the future. They will be cut off in something like a group suicide. They hate life and do not long for the future to be filled with their children. Imagine: if brethren accepted their calling, and accepted the teachings of Almighty God, it would be Christian families all the way into the future, in a blessing for every single coming generation. As it is, we do not see that. In fact, we may see a future only of Amish Christians, Orthodox Jews, and traditional Muslims, since these seem to be groups which accept the goodness which most Christians reject: the goodness of children. Yet it should be the norm for Christians to reproduce, give the Lord godly seed in the future, and inherit the earth. That's the norm in the Bible. It's the norm in nature. It should not take a small specialized sect of brethren to accomplish this. The meek, through the Christian family, will inherit the earth. The ungodly will erase his own future. They are openly advertising their plans for that as I write you this.

There are some who will say – in a feigned spirituality I believe – but isn't the future of the Christian just a spiritual one, with spiritual children? Are we really still called to make babies, rather than believers? Isn't all this talk of families a bit carnal? You hear this from time to time, and it's important to point out what complete nonsense it is. The calling to the family is there for all humanity from the creation, and nowhere has that calling ended. Let's just briefly review. God instructs Adam to -- *Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it* (Genesis 1:28) and to be joined in marriage for life, saying, *Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.* (Genesis 2:24) According to Almighty God, *it is not good that man should be alone.* (Genesis 2:18) Man is complemented then and completed by his wife, and the creation is completed in marriage, except for those who are called specially to celibacy. (1 Corinthians 7:7-8) Man and woman are made uniquely for each other, and children spring necessarily and organically from this union. Being fruitful is a command.

That powerful teaching in Genesis is echoed throughout the Psalms and the prophets. Children are treated as a blessing, and not a problem. Having many children is treated as good, those children being a weapon in the hands of a godly warrior. The man with many children is said to be "happy." (Psalm 127:4-5) The wife of a faithful man is like a "fruitful vine" and his children like many olive shoots around the table. (Psalm 128:3) Barrenness is viewed as an affliction, and

couples pleaded with God to remove it. The purpose of the marriage union is also plainly taught in Scripture. It is not about mere friendship or emotional love. It is for the union of souls and producing children. The prophet Malachi, for instance, in calling Israel to repent of its cruelty of divorce, and in reminding Israel of why God made us one flesh, says that the Almighty “*seeks godly offspring.*” (Malachi 2:15) He desires children of faith and virtue in the coming generations. This is how the people of God CONTINUE to be the people of God; through bearing and raising children.

That is not something we can provide the Lord if we neglect marriage, put it off for many years, or choose to have few children. There will be no godly offspring for the Lord. It will be no better than the Israelites of their time, who divorced their Hebrew wives and married pagans, and had children with them. The Church in this era rejects children in its own unique way -- with the worship of higher education and money and the contraception that comes with it -- but in the principle of denying God his rightful children, we are the same as ancient Israel. We damage marriage and deny God His children. We are rightly rebuked by the words of the prophet.

We could go one at length with Old Testament passages on the importance and blessing of children, but let’s respond to those who say – fine, well in the Old Testament children truly were a priority, but in the New Testament things have changed. We are a spiritual people now, and we have spiritual children. We just make new believers. Well, before I answer that claim, I ask the reader to please pinch himself, and see if he is only a “spiritual” person. If you felt flesh there, and a bit of pain with the pinch, you are real flesh and blood, and not a spiritual apparition. You see our spiritual calling to live fully in Christ and share the Gospel, does not contradict our physical nature, and the continuing good of the family and children. Rather the latter is a tool of the former. The blessing of marriage and children has not diminished in the New Covenant era, but instead the blessing is heightened, if anything, and brought to its full purpose. Marriage now can represent Christ and His people. It can be the lifelong unbreakable union that God originally intended at creation. Our children can be taught in the Lord, and led to Jesus through their parents. They know the reality of Messiah and not the future hope of Him. The physical reality of the family then is not in contradiction to our spiritual calling, but in harmony with it, and heightened by it.

That is why we see calling to the family and children throughout the Gospels and Epistles. Jesus himself, in teaching on marriage’s unbreakable nature, goes straight to Genesis -- the real physical creation -- in teaching that man and wife are made one flesh by God. Therefore, man may not separate that union. (Mark 10:6-9) Jesus did not lessen marriage, but greatly increased it. That is also why we see marriage and childbearing both instructed and treated as valuable in the New Testament. Paul teaches that the young widows should get married, bear children, and keep the home, in a teaching that would revolt modern feminists and worldly Christians. (1 Timothy 5:14) That is a plain instruction for believers. In emphasizing female submission, Paul also teaches that the woman is saved in childbearing. (1 Timothy 2:15) He was not speaking of making spiritual children by sharing the Gospel, but was speaking of real actual children. Unless

a woman is called to celibacy, childbearing is an essential and unique part of her sanctification. The New Testament also teaches familial morality, and is full of instructions for children to honor and obey their parents, parents to teach, correct, and gently love their children. A child can be sanctified, according to the New Testament, by only one believing parent. (1 Corinthians 7:14) How then is marriage and the family NOT essential in the New Covenant?

You occasionally hear those who diminish the family point to Hebrews 11, and how it teaches that our country is no longer physical land, but is a heavenly country. (vs. 16) That is what God had been teaching the patriarchs all along, right? So if it's a heavenly country how can we care abundantly for physical children? Isn't that idolatry? But they forget that in the SAME passage Paul writes about real children, and their great value. In the same passage it is said that through faith, Sarah received strength to conceive seed, and that the seed of Abraham would be as many as the stars of the sky in multitude. (vs. 11-12) He uses seed here to speak of their many descendants, since he describes them as many. He is not using it spiritually as he does elsewhere to speak of Christ. He is speaking of the physical children that sprang from Sarah's womb, from the other matriarchs, and were plentiful. This isn't about making believers by sharing the Gospel. It is about the seed of God's people being many real, physical children. The Duggers had absolutely nothing on Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The very same chapter then goes on to praise all the godly offspring that came from those physical unions, saints such as Moses, Joshua, Gideon, Sampson, Daniel, even making possible references to Isaiah and the Maccabees. These seed of Abraham were real children, who carried forth God's plans and were His chosen vessels. Where would they be if their parents had chosen contraception or abortion? The heavenly country we seek then, does not preclude our physical families now. Heaven is our ultimate goal. Not our only reality. God will use our children as His vessels in this purpose, and He still desires godly seed.

That will take the poor in spirit. It will take the mourner. The meek. You see the meek, brethren, will hear God's call and faithfully obey His Word. The meek will accept the sacrifice of children, and postpone their own desires, not postpone marriage. They will treat bearing and raising children as a job, and a kind of religious vocation, along with a physical necessity. The meek will let their personal dreams go, and be replaced with God's will. The meek will wait on the LORD even when the wicked seem to be succeeding, and God's promises do not seem to bear fruit before our eyes. They will continue simply to walk in God's way, and bless the whole earth. God's promises will be fulfilled through the meek. The wicked will be cut off. Remember that.

What is breaking the Church's back and preventing His people from doing this? Just look around you. It is building a life based on our personal dreams. It is taking our desires fully out of the context of God's obligations for us, and following those desires instead of God. It is treating many years of higher education as almost mandatory. It is treating simple, modest people like they are less than successes, or even to be looked down upon as failures. It is wanting our children to be normal, to fit in, to be conversant in the pop songs, TV shows, and movies of the day. It is sending our daughters off to follow a man's path of a career, and making them

contracepted vessels who will not bear life, instead of teaching them to marry, bear children, and be homemakers as the Bible does. It is leaving our daughters in mountains of schools debt, debt it will take many years to pay off, and which will not allow them their path in the home. It is making the cars, the home, the vacations, the comforts, the retirement and all that garbage the objects we must be aiming for, instead of meekly, humbly, submitting to the yoke of our Savior.

In fact the western Christian's worship of dream fulfillment apart from God is so heartless, we would certainly call it narcissistic or psychopathic, if it were not so socially acceptable. I'm serious. To follow our heart's desire apart from God's teaching and the community is utter, unspeakable selfishness. I worked with an unbeliever once, a man who does not know the light of Christ, and he had the basic sense in life to know that he was not going to move and leave his parents alone when they were older. He would put his desires underneath their need for his help. He gave his extra energies and extra time in caring for their property, when he could have been making money for himself, or relaxing from his hard work. This unbeliever had the knowledge of the conscience enough to know wish fulfillment is far below morality, and obligation. The children of God need to learn some of the same. The world needs the benefit of our families and our children. It does not need a whole class of Christians who are middle class to wealthy, and can talk intimately of worldly fashions and trends, or pro sports either. It needs humble Christian communities, which are content with what they have. It does not need more children without a full-time mother, or more female PhDs.

And here is that real union of the spiritual children I spoke about before, and the real physical children we are called to have: when we are spiritual people, and we submit the flesh to the spirit, God then uses the flesh in the most wonderful of ways, and will bless the whole world through it. That is the promise of the seed, to be a blessing to all nations. That does not happen without godliness. It does not happen without real children. In fact sending the Gospel to all people doesn't happen without real children either, as they are our future pastors and missionaries, physical vessels for God's spiritual light. What brother would reject a future missionary?

That's something I always remember as I pass through parts of the country, or shrinking, small town America. Where are the Christian families? What used to be a heartland both of the Christian faith, and of godlier values, has either disappeared, or been replaced with the wealthy, worldly exports of the cities, often waving their rainbow flags. It gets harder and harder to find simple, modest, Christian people. Between Christians' rejection of childbearing, and spending masses of their wealth to send their children to the cities to be indoctrinated, we have seen what used to be Christian land disappear. The meek did not inherit the earth. Rather, the wealthy, formerly Christian, highly educated did. Christians bought into the flow of the culture, and they have in part been wiped out. The poor went to the cities to make money, the rich moved back out, build giant houses and raised the cost of living. You might think bands of death squads roamed the land and ethnically cleansed all the hillbillies, but it wasn't death squads, it was Christians. They don't want any more poor, simple people around here anymore.

Marriage as given by God is a vessel of life. To reject it is to embrace death. Not only is marriage life preserving in the safety that it provides man, woman, and child, but it helps temper and eradicate the harm caused by man's lust. Paul even teaches that if one cannot control one's passions, "*it is better to marry than to burn with passion.*" (1 Corinthians 7:9) This simple, short teaching alone is life-giving, as the whole of Scripture is. If brethren actually followed these instructions, we would have been blessed with many more marriages, and the children which come from them. Instead of spending the best childbearing years of life pursuing a high social platform, and reckless hedonism, Christian men and women would be providing us a future, and a Christian environment for our children. Marriage's power to prevent the destructive effects of lust also appears in Proverbs 5, which warns men to drink water from their own well, to keep with their own wife, rather than to become unclean with a wicked woman, one "*whose feet go down to death.*" (vs. 5) What a reminder of the countless times immorality leads to sickness and death. The joy and delight for men and women in marriage is also an abating of the evils of fornication or adultery. It transforms the fire that destroys into the hearth that warms the home. Most importantly, it brings life and a future for our people.

We must make the family our ministry brethren. Make it yours. It is just as needed as missionaries, church planters, teachers, or aid to the poor. In fact it is all of those things wrapped up into one, right at home. Plan for marriage soon, not later, and recognize that bearing children is among the core purposes of that union, and it is what God teaches He wants of us. Plan to live modestly, and simply, in way that exalts not only the Christian character, but will better allow the man to support his household, and finances to go to godly purposes and not vain ones. Make Christian education, and Christian culture the way of your home. Guard against the fashions and trends of the world. Recognize that they come from outside the life of Christ, and a part of what we have been taken away from in becoming a holy people. Plan to make your home a church in miniature, and know its unspeakable value and goodness. God needs our homes, and He desires children. He will make an entire people the vessel for His light.

I must ask you again in closing, to remember the times in which you live. These are days in which we can watch entire population groups of Christians or former Christians be replaced with Muslims -- their historical enemies -- or with others who will take their place. They will be no more. Remember that entire regions in the childless West are now beginning to accept the customs of the Muslims, so as not to offend them, and if history proceeds as it nearly always does, will soon be under the legal system of the Muslims, giving them rule and being held under their thumb as infidels. Nearly anyone who holds Christian values in the West, if they communicate them openly or act on them, will be threatened, lose their job, their business, and in some nations be charged with a crime. The default religion of western governments and institutions is Humanism and has been for a long time. The language of Christians, their customs, their ethics, and their faith are all being swept away, either slowly or nearly overnight. The heathen inherit the earth, my friend. The wicked continue to rage. It is an appalling sight before the eyes of many believers, or even those who merely identify with the formerly Christian West.

I have prayed with brethren literally in tears over the collapse in the Church and society. I have heard them cry out to God over the flood of immorality. The horror of it does not depart from them. They are driven mad by the sight which their eyes see. The LORD has finally given them a trembling heart, failing eyes, and anguish of soul. (Deuteronomy 28:34, 65)

But the answer to heathen inheriting God's creation is not in the next national election, or picking a rightist political candidate. It is not in proving the way of the heathen false in public debate. It's not in tracking down their violent elements with a police force, or putting boots on the ground in a foreign country to keep them in check. It is not in a change of legislation either. It is not in choosing to be nice daily and give to the poor, while ignoring everything else the Bible tells us to do.

The answer is merely in humbly following our Lord in the family and community. It is in establishing a righteous people, coming together in families, and providing God His seed for the future. It is in the sacrifice of raising up and teaching all the children God gives us, and treating these things as a job, not an option. It is in showing more respect for gender than the secular world does, teaching our women the calling of the home, and having them with our sons and daughters to raise them up.

It respects the wholeness of the Christian home -- father who is provider and protector, mother who is homemaker and nurturer, and children who will be taught in Christ, loved, and corrected. It is in our hunger as a people to be righteous, merciful, meek, and pure in heart. It is in accepting our persecution as a blessing from God. Forget the next politician, who will at best leave you with a slightly more rightist state than you already have, or be a compromise entirely. Politicians will not help you. Focus only on Christ and follow Him dutifully. Be faithful, brethren.

For you must not fear the wicked:

*Do not fret because of evildoers,
Nor be envious of the workers of iniquity.*

*For they shall soon be cut down like the grass,
And wither as the green herb.*

*Trust in the LORD, and do good;
Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness.*

*Delight yourself also in the LORD,
And He shall give you the desires of your heart.*

*Commit your way to the LORD,
Trust also in Him,
And He shall bring it to pass...*

*For evildoers shall be cut off;
But those who wait on the LORD,
They shall inherit the earth.*

*For yet a little while and the wicked shall be no more;
Indeed, you will look carefully for his place,
But it shall be no more.*

(Psalm 37:1-5, 9-10)