

**The Gospel of Matthew #28**

**Sermon on the Mount: How to Be Happy**

**#3: HAPPY ARE THE GENTLE**

**Matthew 5:5**

I. The meaning of “meek”

NOT

- Defensive
- Demanding
- Impatient

IS

- Approachable about a wrong
- Easy to work with
- Patient

II. Connection with poverty of spirit & mourning

Poor in spirit: to \_\_\_\_\_

Mourn: to \_\_\_\_\_

→ Gentle: to \_\_\_\_\_

A true estimate of myself leads to gentleness toward others

Concern about increasing harshness in the fight for religious freedom and absolutes in our culture. Need to respond to harshness with gentleness and strength.

### III. Jesus the Gentle Savior

Matt 11:28-30

Not weak: Matt 21:12-13 violently drove out merchants in temple  
But He allowed Himself to be abused, treated unjustly, tortured and  
killed for your sake (Isa 53:7; I Pet 2:21-3). He died for your  
harshness.

### IV. Promise: Inherit the Earth

Psm 37:11—i.e. the \_\_\_\_\_  
The Land is God's promised Kingdom: cf. Deut 4:1  
Same word used of new Earth (Isa 66:22; Rev 21:1)

Psalms 37 describes those who inherit it: v9, 11, 22, 27, 29 (forever),  
34. In every case contrasted with the wicked who are "cut off/vanish"

So II Cor 6:10 describes **you—now!**

### So What

1. How do you respond when criticized?  
When you do not get your way?
2. Would people describe you as a "gentle" person?  
What keeps you from gentleness?
3. Relate this to the first two beatitudes. It reveals whether they are  
genuine in your life.  
Come humble yourself anew before the Lord now.
4. Observe this week when you are gentle, by God's grace, and when you  
are not. Use this to deepen the Gospel in your heart.