

Fruit of the Flesh

SINS OF THE FLESH

Physical	Spiritual	Relational	Lack of Discipline
immorality impurity sensuality	idolatry witchcraft	hatred discord jealousy anger selfish ambition dissensions factions envying	drunkenness carousing

those who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.



Meekness

- “I think these three are listed last because they really show maturity when we’re able to conquer the flesh and be filled with the Spirit of God within our lives.” John Maxwell
- These are disciplined virtues that means a controlling of our inner desires.
- Meekness is a controlling of our appetites. Meekness is “Love Domesticating Appetites Powerfully.”



Meekness

- Meekness is the antonym of weakness
- To be “unmeek” is to be weak.
- Meekness is strong restraint or powerful channeling



Meekness used in Greek

- “A wind– gentle breeze”
- “A word– gentle word”
- “A medicine—soothing drug”
- “A friend– a gentle relationship”
- “A disposition– a gentle attitude”



Uncontrolled Terror



Examples of Meekness

- A Champion Race Horse
- A Mighty Reservoir
- A Soldier Caring



Meekness

- “Meekness is the median between excessive proneness to anger and incapacity for anger. The man who is meek feels anger on the right grounds against the right person in the right manner, at the right moment, for the right length of time. At all times meekness means we will err on the side of forgiveness.”



Energies and Appetites That Drive

- Physical Drives the Body—Meekness controls these desires so they don't destroy us and our marriages.
- Emotional Drives the Passion and Feelings —meekness controls these desires so our feelings don't defeat us.
- Intellectual Drives the Mind—meekness controls these desires by setting our mind on the truth so our thinking doesn't distract us.



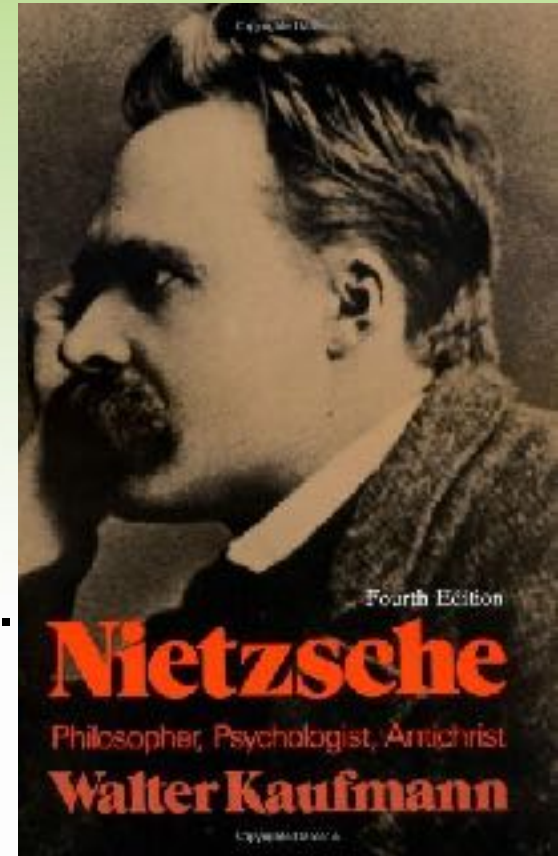
Energies and Appetites that Drive

- Volitional Drives our Will—meekness controls these desires so that our choices are determined by truth so our decisions do not lead us astray.
- “When we choose the beginning of the way, we simultaneously choose the end of the way.” Dr. Mac
- Satan blinds us to the end of the way by only looking at the beginning of the way.



Nietzchism

- Hitler's Favorite Person
- Coined the Term "God is Dead"
- "Assert yourself. Care for nothing except yourself. The only vice is weakness and the only virtue is strength. Be strong. Be a superman. The world is yours if you work hard enough for it"



The Contrast between Nietzsche & Christ:

Nietzsche said:

- **Assert Yourself!**
- **The world is yours if you can get it!**
- **Might is Right!**

Jesus Christ said:

- **Humble Yourself!**
- **The world is yours if you renounce it!**
- **Right is Might!**



Two Biblical Pictures of Meekness:

1. Trusting in the Hard Circumstances of Life (Psalm 37)

- **What was David Facing? Wicked men who were:**
 - Slandering him (v.12).
 - Plotting to take his life (v. 14).
 - Planning to steal his regal authority (vv. 12, 24).
 - Prospering as they did so (vv. 7, 35).
- **What was David to do?**
 - Trust in the LORD , do good, feed on His faithfulness (v.3)
 - Commit his ways to the LORD (v.5)
 - Rest in the LORD & wait patiently for Him (v.7)
 - Cease from anger & wrath (v.8).

This is not Weakness. It is Monumental Strength.

Meekness is Deep Trust in the *sovereignty, wisdom & power* of Yahweh in the face of the hard circumstances of life!



Two Biblical Pictures of Meekness:

2. Obeying the Hard Mandates of Scripture (Jas. 1:19-21)

- Meekness in our Tongue – “swift to hear, slow to speak” (v. 19).
- Meekness in our Temper – “slow to wrath” because it won’t “produce . . . righteousness” (vv. 19-20).
- Meekness in our Temperament – “receive with meekness the implanted word” (v. 21). **It means:**
 - **Positively** – **Welcome it** with a teachable & humble spirit & **submit** to its authority – **obey it!**
 - **Negatively** – **Refuse** to **argue** against it, **twist** it to suit your fancy, or **ignore** it altogether.

We are to do this even when it **intersects** “what I want.”

Meekness is Absolute Loyalty to Absolute Truth – including **the hard mandates of Scripture!**



Meekness

Meekness is God controlling the believer through His Spirit so that the believer can be a channel of God's power to build up lives not destroy them. Only the Holy Spirit can control and fill us this way. We cannot do it ourselves. This is why it takes discipline to learn to channel this energy through the Spirit and not the flesh.

