

## The Meek Man

Jesus in the Psalms

*Psalm 37*

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### I. The Meek Shall Inherit the Earth (Mt 5:5)

What is the trajectory of history? Who wins? Oftentimes we are tempted to believe that the wicked will win, that the unrighteous will triumph. However, Psalm 37 invites us to trust in the Lord because He is the Lord of history and His purposes will be accomplished in history.

### II. The Meek Man

#### A. Opening Charge (1-6)

#### B. [vv. 1-2] Rest, don't fret; God will judge the wicked & bless the meek (7-26)

1. 1-2 –

2. 7-26 –

○ 7-8 repeat the charge:

○ 9-26 repeat the rationale. Note the repeated contrast on the *judgment of the* \_\_\_\_\_ (9,10,13,15,17,20,22) and the *blessing of the* \_\_\_\_\_ (9,11,17,18,22,24,26).

#### C. [v. 3] Trust God and do good, the Lord shall reward the righteous (27-33)

1. 3 –

2. 27-33 –

#### D. [v. 4] Delight in the Lord's ways, He shall fulfill your longings (34-36)

1. 4 -

2. 34-36 –

#### E. [vv. 5-6] Commit your way to God, the Lord shall save His own (37-40)

1. 5-6 –

2. 37-40 –

### III. Application

#### A. The Promise to the Meek (Mt 5:5)

What is the trajectory of history? Who will inherit the earth? Our psalm does not leave this question in doubt: *The \_\_\_\_\_ shall inherit the earth.*

The triumph of the wicked is always short term. Long term, God will cause justice to reign. He makes all things right. He will vindicate His Name on the earth (cf. 3, 4b, 9, 11, 17b, 22a, 26b, 34c, 37b).

In other words, God's intention is to establish justice on the earth. Remember the promise to the Lord's Servant, our Lord Jesus Christ, "*He will not fail nor be discouraged, Till He has established justice in the earth*" (Is 42:4). God is just and He reveals His justice in the course of human history.

#### B. The Meaning of Meekness (cf. Num 12:3)

Meekness is sometimes misunderstood as weakness. But the meek are not necessarily weak. Rather the meek are those who \_\_\_\_\_ *God* and *serve Him* \_\_\_\_\_ in the course of human history; those who *trust God* and *serve Him humbly*.

- 9b – *those who wait on the Lord shall inherit the earth.*
- 18 – *The Lord knows the days of the upright, and their inheritance shall be forever.*
- 21-22 – *The wicked borrows and does not repay, but the righteous shows mercy and gives.*
- 29 – *The righteous shall inherit the land and dwell in it forever.*
- 34 – *Wait on the Lord, and keep His way, And He shall exalt you to inherit the land.*

So consider the case of Moses. We are told in Numbers 12:3 that "*the man Moses was very meek, more than all men who were on the face of the earth.*"

#### C. The Character of the Meek

1. The meek are patient (1-2, 7-8) –
2. The meek are trusting (3-4) –
3. The meek are content (16-17) –
4. The meek are generous (21) –
5. The meek are wise (30-31) –

### IV. Conclusion