Session 7
The Meek God

Review

1. Knowledge of God
2. Glorious God
3. Intimate God
4. Bridegroom God
5. The Holy God
6. The Just God

I. The Meek God

A. Ps 27 is David's prayer regarding this place and describes the primary goal of David's life.

1. Psa 27:4 One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the Yahweh all the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His holy place.

B. These 3 activities are:

1. Gazing on Jesus – seeking to know Him more.
2. Genuine worship – when we discover more of who Jesus is, we cannot help but worship.
3. Corporate intercession – coming together in agreement with the desires of His heart for ourselves, our families, our churches, our cities, our nation.

C. Gazing on Jesus – we seek to discover the beauty of who He is in every way. To say it another way: We want to learn of how excellent He is.

D. Paul prayed for the church in Philippi:

1. Php 1:9-11 And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order to be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ; having been filled with the fruit of righteousness which comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.
2. asking that they would be filled with overflowing love
3. so that they would be able to discover what is excellent
4. so that they could be pure and spotless for the day of Christ.
   a) This word (often translated approve) means to discover by testing, determining the reality about what is being examined.

E. **Jesus is the excellent one and later in Philippians, Paul exhorts them to consider whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, commendable, whatever is excellent and worthy of praise - think on these things. What is there in the entire universe that can live up to that description except Jesus? We are called to set our mind on Jesus and seek to discover all that is excellent about Him.**

1. 1Pe_2:9 But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

II. The Meekness of Jesus

A. **Jesus spoke very clearly that meekness & humility are a part of His character, part of who He was. As we seek to know Him, it is essential to understand Him being meek. Meekness has always been, is today and always will be one of His attributes.**

1. Mat 11:29 "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle (meek) and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

B. **Definition**

1. It's very easy to equate meekness & humility with weakness. But we must hear this truth. Meekness is not about being weak, it's not about having no strength.
2. Meekness is power under voluntary restraint, usually for the benefit of another. Meekness can only be born of strength.
3. A powerful stallion that submits willingly to the bridle is called a meek horse because it is restraining its great strength that could easily destroy its rider.

C. **Related**

1. Gentleness – sailors would called a breeze gentle knowing inherent power of wind.
2. Humble – not because I've been humbled by someone stronger, but because I've humbled myself, lowered myself for the benefit of another.

III. Pre-Incarnate Meekness

A. **From before the foundations of the world – He was Meek**

1. 1Pet 1:20 For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for your sake.
2. Joh 17:24 "Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world."

B. Creation of Man

1. Gen 2:7-8 Then the LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being. The LORD God planted a garden toward the east, in Eden; and there He placed the man whom He had formed.
2. Gen 2:21-22 So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh at that place. The LORD God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man.
3. Formed = molded
4. Consider His meekness in creating us
   a) Knelt down on the ground
   b) Got his hands dirty as He molded Adam, infusing this handful of dirt with the most intricate and mind boggling systems that would allow for a self-healing, reproducing, thinking and learning being, but more than that – one who could walk in relationship with Himself forever.

C. David recognized Yahweh's treatment was in meekness

1. David's recognized God's activity in his life when Saul dies and he is made king.
2. Psa 18:35 You have also given me the shield of Your salvation, And Your right hand upholds me; And Your gentleness (meekness) makes me great.

D. Messianic Psalm – The Father sends Jesus forth for the cause of meekness…

1. Psa 45:4 And in Your majesty ride on victoriously, For the cause of truth and meekness and righteousness;

IV. Meekness in the Incarnation

A. God taking on human flesh in all its weakness

1. Heb 10:5 Therefore, when He comes into the world, He says, "Sacrifice and offering you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me;…"

B. As a baby…
C. Growing up
D. The disciples
E. One on one interaction with humanity

V. The Cross

A. Take time to contemplate Him and His suffering – discover His meekness

B. Palm Sunday – riding on the colt

1. Zec 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout in triumph, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; He is just and endowed with salvation, Meek, and mounted on a donkey, Even on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

C. Passover feast – washed the feet of the disciples

1. **Joh 13:1-6 Now before the Feast of the Passover, Jesus knowing that His hour had come that He would depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. During supper, the devil having already put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon, to betray Him, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come forth from God and was going back to God, got up from supper, and laid aside His garments; and taking a towel, He girded Himself. Then He *poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded.**
2. **Joh 13:6-11 So He *came to Simon Peter. He *said to Him, "Lord, do You wash my feet?" Jesus answered and said to him, "What I do you do not realize now, but you will understand hereafter." Peter *said to Him, "Never shall You wash my feet!" Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me." Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, then wash not only my feet, but also my hands and my head." Jesus said to him, "He who has bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you." For He knew the one who was betraying Him; for this reason He said, "Not all of you are clean."**
3. **Joh 13:12-17 So when He had washed their feet, and taken His garments and reclined at the table again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am. If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you. Truly, truly, I say to you, a slave is not greater than his master, nor is one who is sent greater than the one who sent him. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.**
4. **The master, the apostle of our faith, God himself laid aside His position and washed the feet of His disciples. Who was in the group of men at that time? Judas! Jesus washed his feet even though He knew Judas was about to betray Him.**

D. Garden of Gethsemane – Mt 26:36-46; Mk 14:32-42; Lk 22:39-46; Jn 17

1. **Remove this cup from Me!**
   - **a)** Have you ever considered what Jesus knew at that moment?
   - **b)** Remember Gen 2, Ps 139
     - (1) Here He is, creator of the universe, freely confined to a body that He created, that He designed. He was intimately aware of how the human body worked. He knew how our nerves work, how our pain receptors detect injury and communicate it to the brain.
     - (2) He knew how excruciating the next few hours would be! Yet He refused to use His strength as God to either avoid the pain or numb the pain. He chose to walk through the cross totally human.
   - **c)** Great power under restraint.
     - (1) Mat 26:51-53 And behold, one of those who were with Jesus reached and drew out his sword, and struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his ear. Then Jesus *said to him, "Put your sword back into its place; for all those who take up the sword shall perish by the sword. Or do you think that I cannot appeal to My Father, and He will at once put at My disposal more than twelve legions of angels?

E. The suffering

1. From the time the soldiers arrested Jesus in the garden, with each step of the way, with each blow, He could have at any time said, "No more! It's not worth it. Release the angels and destroy humanity!" But He didn't.
2. Consider His response when Pilate begged Jesus to answer as he claimed the power to put Him to death.
   a) Joh 19:11 Jesus answered, "You would have no authority over Me, unless it had been given you from above;…"
3. Remember, Jesus had told His disciples earlier that He laid down His life, no one could take it from Him. At any moment He could have stopped everything, but in meekness He restrained Himself and endured.
4. For the joy set before Him, He endured all. For you, for me - we were the joy set before Him, we were the joy of His heart and for that He restrained His divine power and endured all. He submitted in meekness to the shame, to the mockery, to the beating, the torture, and the unimaginable extremes as the very body He created exploded again and again with raging pain.
   a) Heb 12:2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.
5. On the cross, as He came to the end and cried out, "It is finished!" Can you hear those words to the Father, "We've done it! It was worth it all."
6. His meekness expressed at the cross was the door that opened for you and I to enter with Him into eternity. You and I were worth it all to Him.

VI. Eternal Attribute of Meekness

A. Meekness is part of the beauty of Jesus. It is an attribute of God. It is part of who is was as He walked this earth in the flesh. It is still a part of who He is today. It is part of who He will be forever.

B. Eternal Son of Man

1. Glorified body
   a) Php_3:21 who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.
2. We will be like Him –
   a) 1Co 15:51-52 Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.
   b) 1Jn_3:2 Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.

C. **Even today, our glorious beautiful Bridegroom King demonstrates His meekness in His grace and love for us.**

1. Let's consider again what Jesus did when He washed His disciple's feet.
2. Reason for washing the feet.
3. They were already clean
4. But needed the grime, the manure, the dirt from the streets to be washed off.
5. In our human brokenness, in our weakness, we walk through the grime, the darkness, the sin of this world. We are tempted, we fail, we sin. We need our feet washed.
6. When we repent and turn to Him in our weakness, He takes off His royal robes, wraps a servant's towel around Himself, kneels before us and washes our feet, cleansing us from all unrighteousness. What a humble God we have!

D. **Oh do you know Him this way?! Get to know Him in His Meekness, for forever we will love Him and remember Him for His meekness.**

1. 2Co 10:1 Now I, Paul, myself urge you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ--I who am meek when face to face with you, but bold toward you when absent!

VII. We become what we behold

A. **2Co_3:18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.**

B. **Mat 11:29 "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle (meek) and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."**

C. **Meditating on His meekness is essential for He calls us to walk in meekness and we can only do so by learning from Him. By taking His yoke upon ourselves and joining Him. When we choose to restrain our need to be strong over others who are weaker than ourselves, we can strengthen them by serving them as Jesus does. His yoke is the yoke of meekness and humility. He is a very willing teacher.**