



BEHOLD THE KING

MATTHEW

“It depends on what the meaning of the word ‘is’ is ... If ‘is’ means is and never has been, that is not – that is one thing. If it means there is none, that was a completely true statement....

“Now, if someone had asked me on that day, are you having any kind of sexual relations with Ms. Lewinsky, that is, asked me a question in the present tense, I would have said no. And it would have been completely true.”

President Bill Clinton

“Bill Clinton really is a guy who’s willing to think carefully about ‘what the meaning of the word “is” is.’ ... Perhaps we should start calling him, ‘Existential Willie.’”

Timothy Noah

“You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

Matthew 5:48

“... unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 5:20

Two Purposes

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1. **a mirror** - leads to see and cry out for help

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2. **a moral code** - to be obeyed, not dismissed

Main Point:

Meekness shapes the Christian's response to
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“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.”

Matthew 5:5

meekness = **faith** + **patience** = gentleness

Confidence in **God's timing and provision**
enables us to refuse to take shortcuts and
respond with **gentleness**.

Case Study 5:

Meekness replaces personal retaliation with patient **generosity**.

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“Your eye shall not pity. It shall be life for life,
eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand,
foot for foot.”

Deuteronomy 19:21

- Slapped cheek takes **dignity**.

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- Slapped cheek takes **dignity**.
- Lawsuit takes **possessions**.
- Pressed into service takes **time** and **effort** and **work**.
- Responding to the beggar takes **resources and patience**.

“Do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.”

Matthew 5:42b

Case Study 6:

Meekness replaces selective love with **selfless**
love.

“You shall not hate your brother in your heart,
but you shall reason frankly with your
neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him.

“You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.”

Leviticus 19:17-18

“If you meet your enemy's ox or his donkey going astray, you shall bring it back to him. If you see the donkey of one who hates you lying down under its burden, you shall refrain from leaving him with it; you shall rescue it with him.”

Exodus 23:4-5

“If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat, and if he is thirsty, give him water to drink, for you will heap burning coals on his head, and the LORD will reward you.”

Proverbs 25:21-22

“agapē” = giving oneself for the good
of the recipient

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Goodness, based on the **nature of the giver,**
not on the worthiness of the recipient

“The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is
over all that he has made.”

Psalms 145:9

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- romantic, erotic, or familial.
- liking a person or enjoying their company.
- giving someone what they deserve.
- destroying someone by giving them something that will harm them.
- empowering others to destroy themselves when they demand it.

“But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven.”

Matthew 5:44-45a

Loving one's enemy is:

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- **even-handed**

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“**For** he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.” (45b)

Loving one's enemy is:

- even-handed
- **not reciprocal**

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“**For** if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?” (46)

Loving one's enemy is:

- even-handed
- not reciprocal
- **not preferential**

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“**And** if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?” (47)

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THE TRUE STORY OF WORLD WAR II
HEROINE CORRIE TEN BOOM

THE WATCHMAKER'S DAUGHTER

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR

LARRY LOFTIS

“How grateful I am for your message, *Fraulein*.
To think that he has washed my sins away.

“You mentioned Ravensbrück in your talk. I was a guard there. But since that time I have become a Christian.

“I know that God has forgiven me for all the cruel things I did there, but I would like to hear it from your lips as well. *Fraulein*, will you forgive me?

Guard at Ravensbrück

“Jesus help me.”

“Jesus help me.”

“I forgive you, brother! With all my heart.”

Corrie ten Boom

Confidence in God's timing and provision enables us to refuse to take shortcuts and respond with gentleness.

“Fret not yourself because of evildoers;
be not envious of wrongdoers!
For they will soon fade like the grass
and wither like the green herb.

“Trust in the LORD, and do good;
dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.
Delight yourself in the LORD,
and he will give you the desires of your heart.

“Commit your way to the LORD;
trust in him, and he will act.

He will bring forth your righteousness as the
light, and your justice as the noonday.

“Be still before the LORD and wait patiently
for him;
fret not yourself over the one
who prospers in his way,
over the man who carries out evil devices!

“Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath!

Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil.

For the evildoers shall be cut off,

but those who wait for

the LORD shall inherit

the land.

“In just a little while, the wicked will be no more;
though you look carefully at his place, he
will not be there.

But the meek shall inherit the land
and delight themselves in abundant peace.”

Psalm 37:1-11