

## THE NAME OF JESUS

Eve called him Cain because *“I have acquired a man from the LORD”* (Gen. 4.1). It is a name that means “possession.” Her name was Naomi which means “beautiful.” When she lost her husband and both of her sons, she said, *“Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me”* (Ruth 1.20). It is a name that means “bitterness.” In Bible times, names were often given because of a specific meaning. They described the circumstance or character of the one named. What about the name of Jesus? What was the significance of His name?

In Matthew 1, an angel appeared to Joseph to tell him about the baby that his wife was carrying. This angel told Joseph that his wife *“will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins”* (Matt. 1.21). In Luke’s account, we find that Mary was also told, *“you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus”* (Luke 1.31). It is a name that means “savior.” When you keep reading, it is of interest that this *“name was given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb”* (Luke 2.21). When we speak the name of Jesus, we are calling Him, “Savior.”

There is another name that is also attached to the Son of God. After the angel spoke to Joseph and instructed him to give Mary’s son the name, Jesus, the author adds his commentary that such took place to fulfill this prophecy: *“Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel, which is translated, ‘God with us’”* (Matt. 1.23; cf. Isa 7.14). Jesus was given the name that described Him as God being with us.

It is of interest that in all of the Biblical record, Jesus is never called “Immanuel” after He was given the name. However, it is clear why such a name was given. John writes that Jesus *“dwelt among us...as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth”* (John 1.14). Later, Jesus told Philip that *“if you would have known Me, you would have known My Father also...He who has seen Me has seen the Father”* (John 14.7,9).

We know Jesus because of what He did. We also know Jesus because of how He was named. CLP

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*“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”*  
-Mark 16.15

**December 4, 2022**

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### MEETING TIMES:

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM**

**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM**

**SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM**

**WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:30 PM**

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### PREACHING WITHOUT A WORD

In the 1500’s, a French writer named, Michel de Montaigne, wrote, “Preach the gospel at all times. Use words if necessary.” We might be more familiar with phrase, “Actions speak louder than word.”

All throughout the Bible, we are constantly reading about the need to preach the gospel. Jesus commands us to *“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”* (Mark 16.15). There is a constant need to verbally communicate the teachings of the gospel. However, we preach the gospel at all times by living as followers of Christ. Wives are told to live in a way so that their unbelieving husbands *“without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives”* (1 Pet. 3.1). In the previous chapter, the Holy Spirit instructs us to have *“your conduct honorable among the Gentiles.”* Why? That *“they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation”* (1 Pet. 2.12).

There will always be a need to verbally explain the cleansing property of the blood of Jesus, and the command of baptism to access His blood (Acts 22.16). Before we can sit down and teach the gospel, we need to show people that we are qualified to speak on behalf of Jesus by living the life that we proclaim. Our actions will say more about the gospel than our words ever could. CLP

## DISPLAYING A HEART OF HUMILITY

### ACTS 20:19

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. Christians are “*not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think*” (Rom. 12.3).
2. God sees pride as “*an abomination*” (Prov. 6.16; 16.5; 21.4)
3. In Acts 20, Paul presents himself to the elders of Ephesus as an example of humility. (2 Cor. 10.1; Acts 20.17-19)

#### I. PAUL WAS EMOTIONAL

- A. **ACTS 20:19:** “*with many tears and trials*”
1. Paul was always positive and encouraging even through all his tears and trials. (2 Cor. 4.7-11)
  2. Paul expressed deep emotions before he departed from the Ephesian elders. (Acts 20.36,37)
  3. Jesus was also a Man of humility displaying emotions when Lazarus died. (Matt. 11.29; John 11.3,5,33,35,36)
- B. Do others see you as a person of humility because you are not afraid to show people your heart?

#### II. PAUL WAS HELPFUL

- A. **ACTS 20:20:** “*how I kept back nothing that was helpful, but proclaimed it to you*”
1. Helpful (symphero): Literally, to bring together. Paul put the pieces together to help them understand.
  2. He proclaimed, “*repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ*” (Acts 20.21).
  3. Paul taught others to be helpful. (1 Cor. 10.23,28,29,33)
  4. Jesus was also a Man of servitude. (Matt. 20.28).
- B. Do others see you as a person of humility because you are willing to help others. (Phil. 2.3,4)

#### III. PAUL WAS IMPARTIAL

- A. **ACTS 20:20,21:** “*testifying to Jews, and also to Greeks*”
1. In the cultural context, Jews were to have no social interaction with the Gentiles. (cf. Rom. 1.16; Gal. 3.28)
  2. Jesus was also a Man of humility displaying showing no favoritism. (John 4.9; Luke 15.2)
- B. Do others see you as a person of humility being impartial?

**CONCLUSION:** Pride will prevent you from obeying the gospel.

## “BLESSED ARE THE MEEK”

Our culture celebrates and looks up to people who have a strong presence. Those who are bold, fearless, and daring find themselves in the spotlight. They are the central character in popular movies. People search the internet looking for ways to build confidence. But how many are searching for advice on how to be meek? Yet Jesus tells us that the attitude that characterizes His disciples are those who are meek.

In Matthew 5.5, Jesus tells us, “*Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.*” The word translated as “meek” is the Greek word “*praus*.” In keeping with the context, Jesus is teaching us about our attitude toward spiritual things. Just as it is with the “poor in spirit” and those who “mourn” over their sinful condition, the meek are those who are meek toward God. They are not self-asserting. They are not aggressive and fearless. They see themselves in light of who God is, and it is manifested in an attitude of meekness.

The word is found only four times in the New Testament. Of the four times, twice it is used to refer to Jesus. This is the word that was used by Jesus in Matthew 11.29. It is there that Jesus described Himself as “*gentle and lowly in heart.*” During the last week of His life, Jesus rode into Jerusalem riding on a donkey in keeping with the prophecy of Zechariah which said, “*Behold, your King is coming to you, lowly and sitting on a donkey*” (Matt. 21.4,5; Zech. 9.9). The word “lowly” is the same Greek word translated as “meek.”

The last time that the word “meek” appears is in 1 Peter 3 where the Holy Spirit gives direction to the character of wives. In verse 4, wives are told not to focus merely on their outward appearance, “*rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God*” (1 Pet. 3.4). Notice that a gentle (meek) spirit is described as “*incorruptible beauty.*” Outward beauty is corruptible. It is possible for someone to lose their good looks due to injury, health issues, or age. In contrast, inner beauty is incorruptible. A woman who has a gentle and quiet spirit will always be beautiful.

Meekness, having a gentle and humble attitude, is the way that Jesus described Himself. Meekness is the way wives are to be toward their own husbands. Such an attitude is “*very precious in the sight of God*” (1 Pet. 3.4). And meekness is to be the attitude of everyone who is a follower of Jesus. If you have this same kind of meek spirit, Jesus says that you are blessed, “*for they shall inherit the earth*” (Matt. 5.5).