
ECHO CHURCH

No Games. No Gimmicks. Just God.

REBRAND

Under New Management

July 19, 2026 | Pastor Rich Saunders Jr.

Matthew 5:5 NKJV | Psalm 37:9-11 NKJV

Sermon Scriptures

Matthew 5:5 NKJV 5 Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.

Psalm 37:9-11 NKJV 9 For evildoers shall be cut off; But those who wait on the LORD, They shall inherit the earth. 10 For yet a little while and the wicked shall be no more; Indeed, you will look carefully for his place, But it shall be no more. 11 But the meek shall inherit the earth, And shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

Introduction

As we navigate through this Rebrand Series and we discover the word of Jesus, it is important not to rush the text for the sake of just getting through it. One of the most important things that we can do is slow down and hear what He is saying. We are constantly in a rush, but in this moment being still allows us to sit with it so that when we apply it, it sticks with us.

We have adopted the definition of Blessed as the To be envied. Flourishing under the approval of God.

This is the definition of it, not blessed because you have the newest car, newest pair of shoes, or the biggest house. Blessed is not limited to the material things we have made to mean blessed. But to actually flourish, to grow, thrive, or prosper, under the approval of God.

So many times we are seeking the approval and validation from so many people, but what happens when we have the approval from God?

So as we park at verse 5 for today, we get to the words, Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth. When you hear “Blessed are the meek,” do you picture someone who has no strength or someone whose strength no longer controls them?

Most people think meekness means you cannot react. Jesus teaches that meekness means God has interrupted your reaction.

So while most people think “Meek means Weak” or that “Meek people let everyone walk over them,” we are reminded that every action doesn’t deserve my reaction. Because if the truth be told, there have been a plethora of times where if God hadn’t held my mouth that the release from me would’ve let you know what was up.

Jesus tells the people, while He is teaching, that these are the blessed people.

E1 Meek

The Greek word means gentle, mild, considerate, or controlled in disposition.

Meekness is often misunderstood as weakness, timidity, passivity, fear, allowing people to mistreat you, or refusing to confront what is wrong.

But biblical meekness is better understood as strength that has been surrendered to God's control.

A meek person may possess authority, ability, intelligence, influence, and strength, but they do not use those things selfishly or recklessly.

I have the ability to respond differently, but I have submitted my response to God.

The meek person is not powerless. The meek person is powerful without needing to prove it.

The Trained Horse

Take a trained horse, the most recent Triple Crown winner, Justify.

Justify was a powerful horse. He had tremendous speed, size, stamina, and natural ability. But winning the Triple Crown required more than raw power. His strength had to be trained, disciplined, and responsive to the direction of his rider.

When jockey Mike Smith took the reins, Justify did not lose his power. He surrendered the direction of that power. He still had the ability to run, surge ahead, and overpower the competition, but he had been trained to respond to the hands guiding him.

That is meekness.

Meekness is not God removing your strength. Meekness is God taking control of how, when, and where your strength is used. You still have the power to speak, but God directs your words. You still have the power to respond, but God governs your reaction. You still have the power to fight, but God decides which battles deserve your strength.

A meek person is not powerless. A meek person is powerful enough to surrender the reins.

Justify did not become a champion because he had no strength. He became a champion because his strength could be directed. In the same way, the believer does not become meek by becoming weak. We become meek when we place the reins of our strength, emotions, words, and reactions into the hands of God.

Meekness includes humility before God, teachability, emotional restraint, gentleness toward others, submission to divine authority, the refusal to retaliate out of pride, and the ability to confront without becoming cruel.

Meekness is not the absence of anger. It is the refusal to allow anger to become your master.

Moses was described as very meek, yet Moses confronted Pharaoh, led a nation, corrected rebellion, and stood before God on behalf of Israel. Jesus described Himself as gentle and lowly, yet He confronted religious leaders, overturned tables, resisted Satan, and endured the cross. Therefore, meekness is not weakness. It is holy strength under divine management.

Meekness is not losing your strength. It is losing your need to use your strength to prove that you are strong.

E2 Inherit

To inherit means to receive an allotted possession.

An inheritance is different from something you seize, steal, or achieve entirely through personal effort. It is something transferred to you because of relationship, identity, promise, or covenant. Jesus is saying that the meek will not have to forcefully seize everything that belongs to them. God Himself will establish their portion.

This reverses the world's system. The world says: "The aggressive take the earth." Jesus says: "The surrendered inherit it."

The world teaches that the loudest, strongest, most manipulative, and most dominant people get ahead. Jesus teaches that ultimate possession belongs to those whose strength is submitted to God.

E3 Earth

The phrase echoes Psalm 37, especially Psalm 37:11 NKJV, "But the meek shall inherit the earth, And shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace."

Psalm 37 addresses the temptation to become frustrated when wicked people appear to prosper. The message is that evil may appear successful temporarily, but God ultimately establishes the righteous.

The Earth Can Carry Several Connected Ideas

First, God-given possession. The meek receive what God has appointed for them without compromising themselves to get it. Second, peaceful enjoyment. It is possible to possess something without having the peace to enjoy it. The meek do not merely receive territory; they receive the capacity to live in God's peace within it. Third, Kingdom fulfillment. This promise points beyond temporary earthly success toward the ultimate reign of God, when His people share in His restored creation.

Psalm 37 contrasts two kinds of people. The wicked take land through power, violence, and manipulation. The meek trust God rather than fighting to secure everything for themselves.

The meek may appear to be losing now, but Jesus promises that they will not lose in the end. What others attempt to seize through force, God will give to the meek as an inheritance. The promise is essentially: "You do not have to become like the wicked to keep from losing. What God has assigned to you cannot ultimately be taken from you."

Earth Can Also Mean Land

The Greek word translated "earth" can refer to the earth as the created world, land or territory, or a particular region or country.

For Israel, "land" was deeply connected to covenant promise. God promised Abraham and his descendants a land not merely as real estate, but as a place where God's rule, presence, provision, and peace would be experienced.

Psalm 37:11 says the meek will delight themselves in an abundance of peace. The Hebrew concept of peace, shalom, reaches beyond the absence of conflict. It speaks of wholeness, completeness, well-being, security, harmony, and life functioning as God intended.

The wicked may possess things without peace. The meek inherit territory with completeness. There is a difference between having a platform and having peace on the platform. There is a difference between owning the house and experiencing peace in the house. There is a difference between gaining territory and being whole enough to enjoy it.

The Meek Do Not Have to Manipulate Territory

Because God establishes the inheritance, the meek have no need to manipulate. You do not have to compromise to remain relevant, attack someone else to protect your place, perform to preserve your platform, control everyone around you, become dishonest because dishonest people appear successful, or change your character to keep your territory.

Whatever God assigns to you does not require you to become someone else to keep it.

The wicked may temporarily occupy territory, but temporary occupation is not permanent inheritance.

Conclusion

Let's bring all of this together. Blessed, flourishing under the approval of God, are the ones who, the meek, whose strength is surrendered and allows God to manage their reactions. They will inherit the portion received through covenant, which God establishes, the Earth, which is the territory that participates in God's restored rule. God secures what He assigns.

You don't have to become like the wicked to keep from losing. What God assigned cannot be taken from you. The wicked may seize it temporarily, but only the meek have the covenant capacity to inherit it permanently.

We do not have to match their energy. We do not have to speak their language. We do not have to use their methods. We do not have to compromise your character because it appears that compromise is working for them.

**So let God manage your reaction. Let God establish your portion. Let God secure your territory.
Do not become like the people you are asking God to deliver you from.**

Quote

Meekness is not losing your strength. It is losing your need to use your strength to prove that you are strong.

Closing Point

Echo Church, this is the rebrand. No Games. No Gimmicks. Just God. In Fayetteville we are not fighting to seize what only God can establish. We are surrendering the reins of our strength, our words, and our reactions, and trusting that what God assigns to the meek cannot be taken away.
