

There was once a gem dealer, who was strolling along the aisles at the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show.

As he browsed the isles and isles of stones, he noticed a blue-violet stone the size and shape of a potato.

He looked it over, then, as calmly as possible, asked the vendor, "**You want \$15 for this?**"

The seller, **realizing the rock wasn't as pretty** as others in the bin, **lowered the price to \$10.**

The stone has since been certified as a **1,905-carat natural star sapphire, about 800 carats** larger than the largest stone of its kind.

It was appraised at **\$2.28 million.**

In Matthew Chapter 13, Jesus Tells The Story Of A Man Who Found A Treasure Hidden In A Field.

“FOR JOY OVER FINDING THIS TREASURE HE WENT AND SOLD ALL THAT HE HAD, TO BUY THAT FIELD SO THAT HE COULD GET THE TREASURE OUT.”

Matthew 13:44

the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. NKJV

- ☞ **You Are That Treasure** That Jesus Gave Up Everything For, So That He Could Get You His Treasure Out Of This Field Called The Earth.

Even though to the world you might look like a just worthless rock.

- ☞ **If you have chosen** to put all of your hope in Jesus this morning then you need to know that “from the foundation of the world” Jesus has seen you as “perfect”, “spotless”, “without blame”.
- ☞ **That you are “a living stone”**, one that he is polishing and cleaning day by day.
- ☞ **You are so precious to him** that there is nothing else in the universe that holds as high a value to him as you, isn't that amazing!

The Harmony of the Gospels Bible Commentary by Rob Robinson

- ☞ **The one thing** that the creator of all things cannot make is a heart that genuinely loves and trust him.
- ☞ **His greatest desire** is to draw out from this field of the earth, those who will genuinely love and trust him, and only you can give that to him...
- ☞ **When you do begin to fall in love with Jesus**, then He for all of the agelessness of eternity, will pour out on you the richness of his wealth and all of his love and grace that he has been saving up for you since before the foundation of the world!

Matthew Chapter 5 is about how Jesus is going to take you from the rough stone that you are now, and then cut, form and fashion you into the priceless gemstone that He knows that you can become.

1 John 3:2

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

Philippians 1:6

being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;

The greatest work that Jesus wants to do in us right now, is a complete change of heart.

Ezekiel 36:26

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh

This is how Matthew chapter 5 begins, Jesus describing the condition of the human heart and what He is going to do to make that heart brand new.

Matthew 5

- 1 And **seeing the multitudes**, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him.
- 2 Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying:
- 3 "Blessed are the **poor in spirit**, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

The last verse of chapter 4 verse 25 says: and great multitudes followed him-- from Galilee, and from Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan.

- ☞ **Everywhere Jesus went** great crowds of people in need followed him. Notice in verse 1 Jesus "sees" them.
- ☞ **Many times** we think that the Lord does not see the difficulty that we are in right now, He must not have time to help right now, or maybe He doesn't really care.
- ☞ **Nothing could be further from the truth**, Jesus sees your need, He is able to see all of our needs, He see your need and He will meet it. Your part is to continue to wait for him and trust him.

In verse 3 Jesus begins to teach us about the kind of heart that He is going to create inside of you:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven”

- ⊕ **The word “blessed”** is “**Makarios**” (mak-ar-ee-os) in Greek, it is literally someone that is “**Extremely happy**”.
- ⊕ **Jesus begins his teaching** by saying that the person that is “poor in spirit” is extremely happy!!!

Let’s look at the words “**Poor**” and “**Spirit**”

- ⊕ The English words poor and spirit do not really tell us the true meaning of what Jesus is talking about here, we need to look at them in their original language.
- ⊕ In the Greek “Poor” is the word “**Ptochos**” (pto-khos) and it can have at least 3 different meanings:
 1. **The materially poor** someone who does not have any money, power or position in life.
 2. **The beggars** that Jesus continually saw on the streets of the cities.
 3. **A person** that is lacking in anything in regards to the spirit

In other words, someone with an acute awareness of their inability to be a righteous person.

- ⊕ **Spirit or “Pneuma”**, here in Greek is the place where your feelings, emotions, and heart are located.
- ⊕ **Poor in Spirit is** a person who in their inner most being, their heart, their emotions, they know that they can never be truly Righteous consistently.

Jesus is saying: “The person that is acutely aware of their inability to be a righteous person in their own heart, that is honest enough to admit this truth, a very happy person...”

- ⊕ **Why** “because the kingdom of heaven is theirs.
- ⊕ **Why?** Because the people who finally make into heaven have one overwhelming common denominator: they all know they don’t deserve to be there.

If you think you deserve to go to heaven then you have not correctly understood what happened at the Cross of Jesus Christ.

- ⊕ **At the Cross of Jesus**, I see just how much the Father hates my sin, so much that His own son had to die for it.
- ⊕ **What is the worth of the Life of Jesus Christ?** Priceless, there is not amount of wealth in the universe that can equal the worth of the Life of Jesus, because He is the Creator of all things.

Colossians 1:16

For by Jesus all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible
The second thing that I see at the Cross of Jesus Christ is how much the Father loves me.

- ☞ **That He would allow** His only Son to die for me.
- ☞ **That means** that the Father loves me the same as He loves his own son, otherwise Jesus would have never been permitted to die for any of us.

When I understand these 2 things, how much God hates sin and how much He loves me, I no longer have any pride left inside of me that I think that I had anything to do with making into heaven.

Ephesians 2:8

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,

When you finally come to the realization of these two things, it makes you fall to your knees and cry out to God: **“O my Lord, why did you die for someone like me?”**

Psalms 8:3

When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained,

4 What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him?

Jesus is laying a foundation here for the rest of the verses in chapter 5 or Matthew, The Lord is looking at your heart.

- ☞ **If you are sad and grieved** over your inability to be “good enough”, then you are perfect for heaven.
- ☞ **Every person** that is in heaven is there because they know they were not worthy to be there, but instead they relied upon Jesus and his sacrifice for them to make them worthy it is all about attitude

We have to change our ideas about what heaven is like and what it is going to be like when we get there. There are a lot of unanswered questions right now, but the answers are coming some day soon...

1 Corinthians 13:12

For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.

There are many unanswered questions in life that will only have an answer when we are finally in heaven, **I don't know if you have a mind like mine, but here are some of the unanswered questions I think of:**

Since light travels faster than sound, isn't that why some people appear bright until you hear them speak?

The Harmony of the Gospels Bible Commentary by Rob Robinson

How much deeper would the ocean be if sponges didn't grow in it?

Why do we wash bath towels? Aren't we clean when we use them?

Why doesn't glue stick to the inside of the bottle?

Do married people really live longer than single people or does it just SEEM longer?

Sooner or later, doesn't EVERYONE stop smoking?

Isn't the best way to save face to keep the lower part shut?

Those are some of the things that I think about, and there is one really big question that I think about most often: "Lord Why do you love me?"

On that final day that you stand before Jesus there in heaven, you will have an answer to the ageless question "Lord why did you die for someone like me?"

The beginning of true wisdom in your life, and the beginning of understanding what the real purpose for your life is, comes when you understand what happened at Jesus Cross, how much God hates sin, but how much He loves you...

Jesus continues:

[Matthew 5](#)

4 blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Again, it's all about your attitude towards your own sin.

- ☞ How do you feel about it?
- ☞ Does it really bug you?
- ☞ Do you hate it and despise it?
- ☞ Does it grieve you to know your sin is what placed Jesus upon the cross?

If you are grieved over your own sin or the sin of others, to the point where you "Mourn" over it, you are on the right track, and the good news; there is coming a day when you will be comforted.

[Matthew 5](#)

5 blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

The word "meek" here is "**Praus**" (prah-ooce), "Power Under Control"

- ☞ **Jesus is a perfect example** of what "power under control" is all about.

John 18:3-6

3 Then Judas, having received a detachment of troops, and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, came there with lanterns, torches, and weapons.

4 Jesus therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him, went forward and said to them, **“Whom are you seeking?”**

5 They answered Him, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus said to them, **“I am He.”** And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them.

6 Now when He said to them, “I am He,” **they drew back and fell to the ground.**

Just the power coming from Jesus person, caused the detachment of Roman troops to fall to the ground...

Matthew 26:51-53

51 And suddenly, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword, struck the servant of the high priest, and cut off his ear.

52 But Jesus said to him, “Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword.

53 Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels?

12 legions of Angles is about 72,000 angels

- ☞ **In the book of 2 Kings**, just one angel killed 185,000 Assyrians in one sigle night.

2 Kings 19:35

And it came to pass on a certain night that **the angel of the LORD** went out, and killed in the camp of the Assyrians **one hundred and eighty-five thousand**; and when people arose early in the morning, there were the corpses all dead.

- ☞ **Jesus has this kind of power at His disposal**, but He never uses His power to destroy, He uses it to Bless.

Luke 9:56

For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men’s lives but to save them.

We often think of “**Meek**” as “Wimpy”. Would you characterize Jesus as “Wimpy” or “gentle in spirit”, “power under control”

- ☞ **Again**, Jesus is continuing to look at the heart of the person.
- ☞ **Perhaps you have the right**, the duty to get mad at someone for the things they have done to you.
- ☞ **Maybe you have been hurt**, abused, taken advantage of...you could use your power to really tell them what you think of them.
- ☞ **You could use your power** to get back at them and perhaps “Make them pay” for what they did to you.

John 19:10-11

10 Then Pilate said to Him, “**Are You not speaking to me?** Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?”

11 Jesus answered, “You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above.

Isaiah 53:7

He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth

Who are you seeking to become more like?

- ☞ **The Image of all men**, just like all other people on this earth.
- ☞ **Or are you seeking** to become just like Jesus?

Jesus had the very creative and destructive power of the Universe, and yet he always uses it to bless, not to get even or destroy...

Isaiah 42:3

A bruised reed He will not break, And smoking flax He will not quench; He will bring forth justice for truth.

Matthew 12:20

A bruised reed He will not break, And smoking flax He will not quench, Till He sends forth justice to victory;

Who do you want to become like? A person who is “**Meek**” in your spirit, realizing what Jesus has saved you from.

- ☞ **You might have the right and the power** to even the score with people who hurt you and take advantage of you.
- ☞ **But because you want to be just like Jesus**, you use your power to bless the very people who hurt and abuse you.

Romans 12:20

Therefore “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.

Proverbs 25:21

21 If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat; And if he is thirsty, give him water to drink;
22 For so you will heap coals of fire on his head, And the LORD will reward you.

There were once four young boys from the same family, that were in church on Sunday Morning. They were normal young boys their age, full of energy, with short attention spans.

The Harmony of the Gospels Bible Commentary by Rob Robinson

As the pastor began to teach that particular morning, he spoke of Jesus teaching on **“Turning the other Cheek”**.

This was a strange concept to these young boys, so they gave the Pastor their undivided attention ...for the moment.

The pastor stressed in his study that **“No matter what other people do to us we should never try to get even with them...”**

As the boys arrived back in their neighborhood that Sunday afternoon, the youngest boy came into his families house crying.

He told his mother that he had kicked one of his older brothers who in turn, also kicked him back.

“I am sorry that you were hurt”, his mother told him, **“But you shouldn’t go around kicking other people.”**

The boy responded, **“But mom, the pastor said this morning that he wasn’t supposed to kick me back!...”**

Very often, our own concept of what “meekness” is defined by is much like this little boys definition here in this story this morning: **“Meekness is for other people, not for me, if i am meek, then people will take advantage of me”**

[Matthew 5:5](#)

5 BUT JESUS SAID... Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth. NKJV

Do you know what Jesus was talking about? The ones that will be ruling with Him over the earth during the 1,0000 year millennium will be those who have developed “a meek and gentle spirit”...

The Percentage of **Americans earning less than \$30,000 per year** who believe that **“The meek shall inherit the earth”**: **61%**

The Percentage of Americans **earning more than \$60,000 per year** who believe **“The meek shall inherit the earth”**: : **36%**

-- Harper's (3/96). "To Verify," Leadership.

-- **A. W. Tozer in The Pursuit of God. Christianity Today, Vol. 39, no. 8.**

“The meek man is not a human mouse afflicted with a sense of his own inferiority. Rather, he may be in his moral life as bold as a lion and as strong as Samson; but he has stopped being fooled about himself. He has accepted God's estimate of his own life. He knows he is as weak and helpless as God has declared him to be, but paradoxically, he knows at the same time that he is, in the sight of God, more important than angels. ... He knows well that the world will never see him as God sees him and he has stopped caring.”

We have been talking about some strange concepts the past several weeks::

1. "The poor in spirit".
2. "Those who mourn over theirs and others sin".
3. "Those with an attitude of meekness".

The reason that these are so strange is that in this world they hold these kinds of attitudes as being "undesirable".

- ☞ People in the world will tell you that "if you have a meek spirit other people will run right over the top of you".
- ☞ Well let them run over the top of you!

Philippians 2:5

5 **Let this mind be in you** which was also in Christ Jesus,

6 Though he was God, he did not demand and cling to his rights as God.

7 **He made himself nothing**; he took the humble position of a slave and appeared in human form.

8 And **in human form he obediently humbled himself even further by dying** a criminal's death on a cross.

9 **Because of this, God raised him up to the heights of heaven** and gave him a name that is above every other name...NKJV/NLT

Man! These are some radical concepts here! If you really want to be counted great not for just for 70 or 80 years but for all of eternity "Make yourself nothing" "Humble yourself", "Develop a meek and gentle spirit" "For if you do "God will raise you up to the heights of heaven..."

As we have been going through the book of Ephesians, we learned in the first 3 chapters about "The privileged position that Jesus has given to us".

- ☞ We are Jesus "Kings and His Priests".
- ☞ We will rule with Jesus when He returns to the earth for 1,000 years.
- ☞ We will have ruler ship over the nations and people that come out of "the great tribulation period".
- ☞ Because we have this honored and privileged position as Jesus kings we are to seek to develop the attitudes of a king now in this life in preparation for our ruler ship that is coming very soon.

We see in matthew chapter 5 that jesus teaches what these 7 new attitudes for us are to be:

1. "Humility".
2. "Mourning over ours and others sins" because of what sin does.
3. "Develop an attitude of meekness" or gentleness.
4. "To hunger and thirst for right things" in life.
5. "To show mercy" to others in our life.

The Harmony of the Gospels Bible Commentary by Rob Robinson

6. “To keep our hearts pure” and our motives right before the lord.
7. “As much as depends on us we are to leave at peace” with everyone” in our lives.

These new kinds of attitudes are not normal for us while still living in these same old bodies.

- ☞ The flesh does not want to be humbled, he wants to exalt himself.
- ☞ The flesh does not mourn over sin, he loves sin.
- ☞ The flesh does not seek righteous things, he wants pleasure at all costs.
- ☞ Purity is not found in the human heart naturally, the Bible says that the hearts natural tendency is to do evil.
- ☞ We are not naturally peace makers, we tend to want to destroy those who do not agree with us or come against us.

Romans 6:16-19

16 Don't you realize that **whatever you choose to obey becomes your master?** **You can choose sin**, which leads to death, **or you can choose to obey God** and receive his approval.

17 Thank God! Once you were slaves of sin, but now you have obeyed with all your heart the new teaching God has given you.

18 Now you are free from sin, your old master, and you have become slaves to your new master, righteousness. NLT

When a person invites Jesus to come and live inside of their heart, they gain the ability to choose to overcome the old attitudes.

- ☞ The Bible teaches that before we gave our lives to Jesus “we were slaves to our old attitudes”.
- ☞ But when Jesus comes inside something awesome happens, our heart begins to change, we want different things to come out of our mouth, different actions to come from our life.
- ☞ But because we still have the old flesh that we live in, there will always be a struggle.
- ☞ We will want to do the right, but many times choose the wrong.
- ☞ It is only by surrendering control of our life to Jesus and relying upon His Holy Spirit that we can overcome the old attitudes.
- ☞ Make no mistake about it, we can and will overcome these old selfish self centered attitudes if we diligently pursue them.

Most people think that the idea of being “meek” means that this person is weak.

- ☞ Nothing could be further from the truth.
- ☞ Meekness is not weakness or being timid.

When Moses stretched out his hands over the Red Sea and it parted allowing Gods people to cross safely, then the waters crashed down upon the armies of Egypt was that meekness?

The Harmony of the Gospels Bible Commentary by Rob Robinson

No! Did you know that Moses is spoke of in the Bible as being the “Meekest man that ever lived on the earth”.

Numbers 12:3...

3 Now the man **Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.** KJV

Numbers 12:3...

3(Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth.) NKJV

At the proper time and for the right reason Moses displayed the very power of God himself in his life.

- ⊖ Moses attitude was that He by himself was nothing without the Lord going before him Moses felt that he could do nothing without the Lord.
- ⊖ In fact, when the Lord told Moses to “take the people into the promised land” Moses told the Lord that he would not move from the place that he was at unless the lord went first before him.

Exodus 33:15

15 Then Moses said, "**If you don't go with us personally, don't let us move a step from this place.** NLT

It is also important to understand that anger is not sin the Lord created us with the ability to become angry at the right time for the right reason.

Ephesians 4:26

26 **Be angry**, and **do not sin**": do not let the sun go down on your wrath, NKJV

How do we do that?

When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the tablets of Gods law and saw that the people had already turned away from the Lord, he was rightfully angry.

When Jesus came into the temple and saw that the place that had been set aside for the Gentiles from all over the world to come and worship God, had been filled up with table to exchange money for the sacrifice of animals, Jesus became so angry that he took a leather cord and drove these out of the court of the Gentiles...

Proverbs 16:32 We see from Solomon the key to anger...

32 He who is **slow to anger** is better than the mighty, And he who **rules his spirit** than he who takes a city. NKJV

Proverbs 25:28

28 Whoever has no rule over his own spirit Is like a city broken down, without walls. NKJV

The Harmony of the Gospels Bible Commentary by Rob Robinson

The person who loses control of their temper also loses control of their self. They also cease to be a King and instead become a servant to the flesh.

- ☞ The Greek word for meekness is “**Praus**”, it was a word that was very familiar to the people of the days that Jesus walked the earth.

Nt:4239 “**Praus**” (prah-ooce':

- ☞ The people of that day understood that the “Praus” was the word that was used to describe “A soothing medicine”.
- ☞ The person who develops this gentle attitude brings “Soothing medicine to others”.

In a situation where someone is very angry, a person who does not answer angrily can totally diffuse the whole situation.

[Proverbs 15:1](#) NKJV

15:1 A soft answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger

[Proverbs 15:1](#) NLT

15:1 A gentle answer turns away wrath, but harsh words stir up anger.

Those that sailed upon the waters of those days also used “Praus” to describe the gentle breezes that cooled them as they sailed upon the seas.

A farmer during that time would use the word “Praus” when he was describing the process that he went through in the breaking of a young horse.

“Unless a young horse is broken of itself it us no use to anyone else”.

What does “medicine” the “wind” and a “horse” all have in common?

- ☞ They all have tremendous potential for power
- ☞ But anything with tremendous power also has the ability to greatly destroy.
- ☞ The purpose of power is that it would be “brought under control”.
- ☞ When power is brought under control it is called “meekness”.