

## ***Lessons From the Sermon of Jesus on the Mountain Part 5***

***“5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth:” (Matthew 5:5 KJV)***

Meekness is a character and we need to develop meekness in our lives and conducts.

As we had studied in the previous part that God had put Jeremiah, Joseph, Isaiah, Abraham, Mary, and Jesus in front of challenges, and they were meek and did what God wanted from them to do.

Today in this message we will study the life of Moses. Moses was a meek person, and the Lord vindicated him when Aaron and Miriam, his own brother and sister spoke against him. Let us read the whole story of that:

***“1 And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman. 2 And they said, Hath the LORD indeed spoken only by Moses? hath he not spoken also by us? And the LORD heard it. 3 (Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.) 4 And the LORD spake suddenly unto Moses, and unto Aaron, and unto Miriam, Come out ye three unto the tabernacle of the congregation. And they three came out. 5 And the LORD came down in the pillar of the cloud, and stood in the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam: and they both came forth. 6 And he said, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the LORD will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream. 7 My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house. 8 With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the LORD shall he behold: wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses? 9 And the anger of the LORD was kindled against them; and he departed. 10 And the cloud departed from off the tabernacle; and, behold, Miriam became leprous, white as snow: and Aaron looked upon Miriam, and, behold, she was leprous. 11 And Aaron said unto Moses, Alas, my lord, I beseech thee, lay not the sin upon us, wherein we have done foolishly, and wherein we have sinned. 12 Let her not be as one dead, of whom the flesh is half consumed when he cometh out of his mother's womb. 13 And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying, Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee. 14 And the LORD said unto Moses, If her father had but spit in her face, should she not be ashamed seven days? let her be shut out from the camp seven days, and after that let her be received in again. 15 And Miriam was shut out from the camp seven days: and the people journeyed not till Miriam was brought in again.” (Numbers 12:1-15 KJV)*** Aaron and Miriam were angry with Moses because he allowed 70 more leaders to lead the congregation with him and with Aaron and Miriam. That we can read in the previous chapter, ***Numbers 11***. But Aaron and Miriam did not make it clear to Moses that was their reason, but they use the reason that he was married to a foreign woman, ***“And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman.” (Numbers 12:1 KJV)*** That was an attempt from them trying to undermine his authority over them and the rest of the congregation, ***“And they said, Hath the LORD indeed spoken only by***

***Moses? hath he not spoken also by us? And the LORD heard it.” (Numbers 12:2 KJV)*** They were trying themselves to be equal to him to undermine his decision to allow 70 more leaders to share with them the leadership. That is why they were boasting over him, saying that God also is speaking to them and not only to Moses.

They were so cunning; first they spoke against Moses mentioning his marriage from Zipporah as bad thing because she is not Israelites, to make his picture bad in front of the Israelites. Then later on they said about themselves that God is also talking to them, in other word, what they were saying is that there is no need for Moses, and they can do his part well.

Certain Scriptures tell us that God was speaking to Aaron, but no Scripture support that God was speaking to Miriam. May be God was speaking to Miriam, but it is not mentioned in the Bible. But the claim of Aaron and Miriam here is that they are equal to Moses that is not correct. Why not correct? Because there is no teaching came to Aaron without being passed first from God to Moses. *Those who claim to be equal to the church leader, they should prove that through the teaching that is introduced into God's church; if they had not added any teaching to the church then their claim is invalid.*

About the marriage of Moses to the Ethiopian woman, that was not his second marriage; that woman was Zipporah, the daughter of the priest of Midian, ***“16 Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters: and they came and drew water, and filled the troughs to water their father's flock. 17 And the shepherds came and drove them away: but Moses stood up and helped them, and watered their flock. 18 And when they came to Reuel their father, he said, How is it that ye are come so soon to day? 19 And they said, An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds, and also drew water enough for us, and watered the flock. 20 And he said unto his daughters, And where is he? why is it that ye have left the man? call him, that he may eat bread. 21 And Moses was content to dwell with the man: and he gave Moses Zipporah his daughter.” (Exodus 2:16-21 KJV)*** The land of Midian at that time of Moses was called a land of Ethiopia; that is why Miriam and Aaron called Moses' wife, Ethiopian woman.

Moses was meek, and he was open to God's suggestion to share with others his leadership because there was much load on Him and work needed to be done. Aaron and Miriam were jealous and were not willing to share. They were not meek, that is why they initiated that fight with Moses. You see how they have wrong motive behind all what they did. But God is just; He vindicated Moses and He rebuked them and dealt with their wrong doing and gave His full support to Moses. *We learned here is that to be meek is to love others, and to be willing to share with them the good things and the privileges that God is giving to us.*

*Meek people are always attacked in this way, where arrogant people will find a foothold against them; in fact they fabricate even stories to penetrate them to undermine them so themselves (I mean the arrogant people) will escape from doing the will of God.* Aaron and Miriam, refused to accept the 70 men that God wanted to add to the leadership, but

they cannot say that to Moses directly, because that was not his will but God's will, therefore they fabricated that story against him to disturb and interrupt that plan of God.

The way for the meek to fight is through living in meekness. The more we are humble and meek, the more God will fight for us. As we noticed here, when Moses kept silent, God called the three of them, and the meeting ended with Miriam being made leprous and was put outside the camp. Those who fight the meek, God will judge them and will bring them outside His church. There is no more severe punishment than to be outside God's church.

We in fighting our enemies we take the stand of Jesus and His willingness to die on the cross. Therefore in the same ways we prove our meekness by making ourselves of no reputation, taking the form of a servant, willingly taking the infirmities and the limitations of man, humbling ourselves, being obedient up to the point of accepting to do the very thing that God is asking us to do.

The Lord will fight for us, the Lord will provide for us, the Lord shall deal with our enemies and will force them to abide in His will, and if they will not be willing He will put them outside His church for a while till they are cleansed from their leprosy to be restored back to His church. The message is directed toward those who were driven by their pride to oppose God and the leadership of the church and now are outside God's church. I hope and pray that they are by now ripe in repentance and are ready to come back into His church.

Let us meditate more on the Scripture that we read and see how Moses' meekness invited God to fight for him.

**1. God will call our enemies for judgment:** God was the one who called Aaron and Miriam for judgment, **"And the LORD spake suddenly unto Moses, and unto Aaron, and unto Miriam, Come out ye three unto the tabernacle of the congregation. And they three came out."** (Numbers 12:4 KJV) In the same way God Himself will call our enemies and bring them to shame and judgment. Let us notice here how God spoke. He spoke suddenly, **"And the LORD spake suddenly."** (Numbers 12:4 KJV) We don't know which time God will speak, therefore we need to be meek along the way waiting till God will speak and call for justice.

**2. God will come by Himself to rescue us:** **"And the LORD came down in the pillar of the cloud, and stood in the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam: and they both came forth."** (Numbers 12:5 KJV) We need to trust God that the Lord will not leave us to be eaten by the will of our enemies.

**3. God will speak on our behalf and He will vindicate us:** God spoke to Aaron and Miriam about Moses being the most faithful in the house of God, and how because of his faithfulness toward God, he is earning God's goodness, **"6 And he said, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the LORD will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream. 7 My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house. 8 With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently,**

**and not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the LORD shall he behold: wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?"** (Numbers 12:6-8 KJV) The most painful thing for the meek to pass through is that being portrait being unfaithful. They made a drama about Moses that he was unfaithful being married to Zipporah so his picture in front of the Israelites will be spoiled. Now they knew both of them that Moses raised up in Pharaoh Palace, he was highly educated, and he was capable to marry a princess. But he left all that in order to follow God. They did not mention the good things he did because they wanted to put him down because he was not going along their wishes and dreams.

To the faithful I want to say the following : 'To remain faithful is to keep on being meek, and the Lord shall vindicate you and will lift you up even in the presence of your enemies.' God confirmed to them that Moses is not an ordinary prophet whom God speaks to him through visions and dreams. But God do speak to Moses, **"mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the LORD shall he behold: wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?"** (Numbers 12:8 KJV) As you remain faithful to God He will confirm your ministry and He will confirm you as a minister of God. God even in the New Testament spoke about Moses that He is faithful, **"1 Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus; 2 Who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in all his house. 3 For this man was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the house hath more honour than the house. 4 For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God. 5 And Moses verily was faithful in all his house, as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after; 6 But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end."** (Hebrew 3:1-6 KJV) Here God as He was speaking about the faithfulness of Christ, he mentioned as well as the faithfulness of Moses. What I want to say to the faithful, that whatever people will speak lies against you, the Holy Spirit will speak on your behalf about your faithfulness toward God.

The Scriptures in the New Testament narrated the faithfulness of Moses and His commitment to God in another location, **"24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; 25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; 26 Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward. 27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible."** (Hebrews 11:24-27 KJV) Moses spontaneously and willingly, considered himself of no reputation, took the form of servant, left pharaoh palace to follow Christ and His will. He was willing to live in wilderness, married Zipporah, the Ethiopian woman, he joined the poor people of God, preferring Christ and His people more than Egypt and the life of sin. Aaron and Miriam should mention such things about Moses and not to undermine him with things that he did in obedience to God.

**4. God will deal properly, speedily and precisely with our enemies:** “9 And the anger of the LORD was kindled against them; and he departed. 10 And the cloud departed from off the tabernacle; and, behold, Miriam became leprous, white as snow: and Aaron looked upon Miriam, and, behold, she was leprous.” (Numbers 12:9-10 KJV) God’s anger is on those who wanted to trouble us and tried to put us down; God shall continually wage war against those who oppose us so we will be freed to continue to serve Him.

**5. The Lord will convict our enemies with their sins and their foolishness:** “11 And Aaron said unto Moses, Alas, my lord, I beseech thee, lay not the sin upon us, wherein we have done foolishly, and wherein we have sinned. 12 Let her not be as one dead, of whom the flesh is half consumed when he cometh out of his mother’s womb.” (Numbers 12:11-12 KJV) Aaron realized what He did against Moses; that what he and Miriam did is sin and foolishness. God will deal with our enemies and the Holy Spirit, as we humble ourselves, will convict them of their sins and their foolishness. Fighting against the church leader who is faithfully doing His responsibilities well is sin and foolishness. God will bring our enemies down to their feet and they will acknowledge what they did is foolishness and they will ask prayers from us when they are afflicted by God.

**6. God still wants us to be merciful on our enemies and intercede on their behalf when God inflict His punishment on them:** “And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying, Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee.” (Numbers 12:13 KJV) Meekness is to pray for our enemies and those who oppose us, that their mind to be enlightened by the Holy Spirit to be aware that what they did against us is foolishness.

We should not rejoice when God inflict our enemies, “17 Rejoice not when thine enemy falleth, and let not thine heart be glad when he stumbleth: 18 Lest the LORD see it, and it displease him, and he turn away his wrath from him.” (Proverbs 24:17-18 KJV) Jesus on the cross prayed for His enemies, “Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.” (Luke 23:34 KJV) Along the way we need to be ready to forgive those who did wrong to us and be willing to forgive them and go along with the plan of God to be accomplished in their lives.

**7. God still wants us to be standing firm with Him as He is implementing His discipline on those who oppose us and trouble us as we are serving the Lord:** “And the LORD said unto Moses, If her father had but spit in her face, should she not be ashamed seven days? let her be shut out from the camp seven days, and after that let her be received in again.” (Numbers 12:14 KJV) Moses agreed with God decision to put Miriam outside the camp for a period till her leprosy was removed.

“24 And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, 25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; 26 And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him

at his will.” (2 Timothy 2:24-26 KJV) The word ‘instructing,’ in verse 25 from the Greek word ‘Paideuo’, is to chastise and which have the following meaning and application:

- A. To train children, to instruct and train them.
- B. To chastise with rebuke.
- C. To correct and mould the character of others by reproof and admonition.
- D. To chasten and punish by the affliction using blows, and to scourge.

**8. God wants us to restore those who repented of their sins:** “And Miriam was shut out from the camp seven days: and the people journeyed not till Miriam was brought in again.” (Numbers 12:15 KJV) Moses restored Miriam, therefore, in the same way we are called to restore those who sinned and repented of their foolishness.

**My dear and beloved:** We in the same way let us follow our Lord Jesus Christ and His Word that we learn from this message. Let us prove our meekness by making ourselves of no reputation, taking the form of a servant, willingly taking the infirmities and the limitations of man, humbling ourselves, being obedient up to the point accepting to do what God is asking us to do.

**My Prayer:** Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the death on the third day to give me eternal life.

Lord forgives me my sins \_\_\_\_\_.

Let us confess and renounce our sins to the Lord. Let us confess and renounce all our pride and arrogance and all our non willingness to suffer, and our non willingness to do what the Lord is requesting from us to do.

Lord I thank you for your clear Word to me that explains to me how to be meek. Lord I am willing to follow the example of Jesus, and to apply your Word that I learned from the life of Moses and how he dealt with those who opposed him.

Lord makes my life testimony pleasant to you and makes me a good example to others that they can see clearly my meekness and my willingness to follow your example. Lord protects me and provides all my needs. Lord deal with all the enemies who are opposing me. Lord fills me with the Holy Spirit and give me the spiritual gifts that I need in my life to go on to preach the gospel of Jesus and to teach others who are in need of your Word. Lord gives me a steadfast heart to go on and serve you.

Lord I pray for my Brothers and Sisters who had humble themselves before you; Lord protect them and provide all their needs. Lord fills them once again with the Holy Spirit so they can go and do what you asked from them to do. Lord makes their life testimony attractive to others so that they will believe in you and start to follow you and live according to your Word.

*Lord I pray for us as a church to go on in serving you and do your work and your will. Lord let your Word for us today on this message change us, and make us the meek people of yours that you want us to be, so others can see you through our lives. Lord enables us to evangelize and to reach new people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and with the Word of God. Lord we pray that you will enable us to plant new Bible studies and new congregations for the church. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.*

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