



DEFINING MEEK

By Bill Pugh

My dictionary has several definitions, one defines it as humbly patient or submissive, as under provocation from others, unduly patient or submissive, spiritless, tame.

Jesus said, *"Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth".*

How can this be? How can a weak, spineless person inherit anything?

Imagine a football coach advising players to be meek. Or an auctioneer be like that when selling an item.

Or a teacher being meek when controlling an unruly class. Would a meek speaker lose control of parliament? Would a meek opponent silence Putin?

We need to put the words of Jesus into context.

He is expounding the Sermon on the Mount, the ethics of the Kingdom.

A mountain symbolically was the place where God lived. Those who citizens of the Kingdom were called to live and work with him as king.

The lives of his followers were governed by self-control, because they were God controlled.

Kingdom people were meek because they acknowledged his reign and authority in all things, from the mountain to the plain.

They are called to witness and serve. His will must be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Even the devil could not stand against the mighty will of God.

Reflection:

Read Matthew 5:1-16. Note that blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Consider what is happening in Russia and the Ukraine.