

DON'T BE A DOORMAT

Tuesday, March 20

Reading: Psalm 37:21-40

Psalm 37:27 *Turn from evil and do good; then you will dwell in the land forever.* **28** *For the LORD loves the just and will not forsake his faithful ones. Wrongdoers will be completely destroyed; the offspring of the wicked will perish.*
29 *The righteous will inherit the land and dwell in it forever.*

J. Upton Dickson was a fun-loving fellow who said he was writing a book entitled Cower Power. He also founded a group of submissive people. It was called DOORMATS. That stands for 'Dependent Organization Of Really Meek And Timid Souls'- if there are no objections? Their motto was: 'the meek shall inherit the earth - if that's okay with everybody?' Their symbol was the yellow traffic light. ¹

Sadly this is what most people think it means to be meek. They believe that meekness is the same as weakness! This idea is very wrong! One good definition of meekness is "strength under control." Jesus is the ultimate example of what it looks like to be meek.

In Psalm 37:11, we read that "the meek will inherit the land" (see also 37:22, 27, 29, 34). In His Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said that "the meek shall inherit the earth" (Matthew 5:5). The last part of Psalm 37 describes for us the truly meek believer in contrast to the wicked.

The wicked are selfish and hoard their money and possessions. Believers have the strength to be generous, trusting in the Lord's blessing (37:21-22, 26). Believers may stumble but God will pick them up; they will never be forsaken (37:23-25, 28). The wicked however will be destroyed (37:28). Believers speak the truth and follow God's Word from the heart (37:30-31). The heart of the wicked is always on evil plans opposing God and His people (37:32-33). Believers have a future home prepared for them by God (37:29, 34). The wicked have no future but punishment and destruction (37:35-38).

Far from displaying the meek believer as weak, these verses show us that believers are strong to stand up for what is right because God is with them (37:39-40). The wicked turn out to be the weak ones who give in to their sinful desires and "follow the crowd" to their own destruction.

The pleasures of the wicked are fleeting. But the reward of the righteous is eternal. The meek - those who stand in God's strength - will inherit the earth. One day, we will rule and reign with Christ. Believers don't let the world walk all over them. We stand boldly in God's strength and proclaim His truth. Don't be a doormat!