



Daily Verse and Comment

[Matthew 11:29](#)

(29) Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and you shall find rest for your souls.

[Ephesians 4:1-3](#)

(1) Therefore, I, the prisoner of *the* Lord, am exhorting you to walk worthily of the calling to which you were called (2) With all humility and meekness, with long-suffering, forbearing one another in love; (3) Being diligent to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

A Faithful Version

In [Matthew 11:29](#), [Jesus](#) links [meekness](#) with lowliness: "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle [*meek*, KJV] and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." [Ephesians 4:1-3](#) states:

I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness [*meekness*, KJV], with longsuffering, bearing with one another in [love](#), endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of [peace](#).

The King James version is correct, as the Greek text uses *prautes*. "Gentle" and "gentleness" are incorrect because in this context they are only an aspect of the meekness we should express in our dealings with others.

In [Matthew 11:29](#), Jesus is explaining why we should embrace His way of life. As our Lord and Master, He is not harsh, overbearing, and oppressive, but gentle in His government. His laws are also reasonable and easy to obey; neither He nor they enslave. He emphasizes the gentle aspect of meekness

toward others. From this, we begin to see why meekness must be a virtue of those who will receive the Kingdom and govern. Because [God](#) governs in meekness, His children must also.

Ephesians 4 teaches how to build and maintain unity within a more social context, and here, *prautes* appears with humility, [patience](#), [forbearance](#), and love. Paul demands that, for unity to be built and maintained, we should receive [offenses](#) without retaliation, bearing them patiently without a desire for revenge. We are, in short, to have a forgiving spirit. Without it, we will surely promote divisiveness.

The association of humility and meekness is natural, and is yet another facet of meekness. Whereas humility deals with a correct assessment of his merits, meekness covers a correct assessment of personal rights. This does not in any way mean a lowering of the standards of justice or of right and wrong. Meekness can be accompanied by a war to the death against evil, but the meek Christian directs this warfare first against the evil in his own heart. He is a repentant sinner, and his recognition of this state radically alters his relations with fellow man. A sinner forgiven must have a forgiving attitude.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

To learn more, see:

[The Fruit of the Spirit: Meekness](#)

Related Topics:

[Forgiveness](#)

[Forgiving Attitude](#)

[Forgiving Others](#)

[Gentleness](#)

[Humility](#)

[Lowliness](#)

[Meekness](#)

[Patience](#)

[Prautes](#)
[Yoke, Christ's](#)

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