

## Joy in the Lord Part 4: Joy for the Humble

February 26, 2023

Matthew 5:5, Psalm 37

Joy is rooted in expectation and anticipation. God will do all that He has promised.

Meek means lowly, who are the lowly? Three statements about the passage in Matt. 5:5:

- 1) **Jesus Taught a Familiar Concept:** Jesus referenced an OT text written by David. Ps. 37:11, the lowly are those who are humiliated by others while suffering for their faith, V8-9, 10-11, 22, and 29.
- 2) **Jesus Gave the Top Resource on the Topic:** (7) Actions of the Lowly:
  1. Trust in the Lord: do good, v3. Dwell in the land and feed on His faithfulness. What does “dwelling” mean, see Jer. 29:4-7, build houses, plant gardens, have children, etc. live for the Lord.
  2. Delight in the Lord: V4, be refreshed, spoiled in God’s faithfulness.
  3. Wait on the Lord: V7, be still, don’t be anxious (don’t fret: V1, 7, 8). Live in total submission and dependence to God, be God’s slave, offer no resistance to Him.
  4. Hope in the Lord: V9, He will bring justice to all.
  5. Obey the Lord: V17, 21, 25, 29, 30, 39, “the righteous” are those who do God’s will. 1 Pet. 1:16, Be holy for God is holy. Obey without resisting the Lord. 1 Pet. 5:10, after suffering a while, the Lord would establish, strengthen and settle you.
  6. Listen to the Lord: V30-31, stand firm in the Lord. Our footing is secure in the Lord, and we will not slip, planted firmly in His word.
  7. Rest in the Lord: V18, 37. “Blameless” is God not placing blame upon us and does not keep account, Ps. 32:1, 2 Cor. 5:21. He knows all our days.
- 3) **Jesus Asserted His Kingly Sovereignty:** Jesus is quoting Ps. 37 in Matt. 5:5. The Jews had not yet rejected Jesus at this time. Promises of land were given to Abraham.
  1. Translation Evidence: “earth” has meanings of: soil, land, and location and has multiple uses.
  2. Context Evidence: the word “inherit” to a Jew would only mean that they would one day inherit the land promised to Abraham.
  3. Precision Evidence: When Jesus wants the hearer to know that He is speaking of the whole world, He makes it clear, Matt. 16:26, 24:14, 26:13.
  4. Consistency Evidence: this is a direct reference to Ps. 37, NT doesn’t change the meaning of the OT text.
  5. Pattern Evidence: Gentiles are seen as thrilled at the peace and prosperity of Jews in the coming kingdom, Is. 49:23.

**Jesus’ Kingly Sovereignty is asserted** where David had brought a temporary peace and is the author of Ps. 37 and confirms that the righteous will one day inherit the land, V9, 11, 29. David is unable to keep it. David was promised in 2 Sam. 7: 12-17 that God would provide a king and establish David’s kingdom forever (2 Sam. 7:13, 16). Where David failed, Jesus will bring it to pass. Jesus will bring justice to the earth and land.

## Further Discussion and Application

There are great and precious promises coming with the reign of the Lord Jesus. What are some of those blessings? What blessings do we have in His presence? In His courts? In the land? In the world?

What are the promises of the Lord that David recounts in Psalm 37?

What promises do we have in Christ in Revelation 21:1-8?

What promises do we have in Christ in 1 Pet. 1:3-9?

What promises do we have in Christ in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18?

What promises do we have in Christ in John 10: 22-30?

What promises do we have in Revelation 1:5-8?

What promise do we have in Christ in John 14: 1-6 and Acts 1:9-11?

What promises do we have in Christ in 2 Pet. 1:2-4?

When the promises of God in Christ are recounted, what is our response and fruit we find in Philippians 4: 6-9? How should we live (V9) and what should we do with our lives?