

## Lesson: (#13) FRUIT OF GENTLENESS

This is the thirteenth lesson in the series entitled, Fruit of Holy Spirit.

The Fruit of Gentleness is the eight fruit listed in Gal.5:22-23 (agape, chara, eirene, makrothumia, chrestotes, agathosune, pistis, and **prautes**).

The Greek word for gentleness is prautes. Praus can be translated gentle, mild, or meek. By adding the suffix (tes) to praus, the idea of agent of the action of gentle, mild, or meek is added.

The emphasis is upon the indwelling Holy Spirit producing supernaturally gentleness or meekness in the life of Church Age Believer (CAB) (Gal.5:22-23).

This means that whenever a CAB walks by means of the indwelling Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit will produce automatically and supernaturally the fruit of gentleness or meekness (Gal.5:16).

**This lesson will study six aspects of the Fruit of Gentleness.**

### 1. Definition of Gentleness:

“Praus is an inwrought grace of the soul; and the exercise of it is first and chiefly towards God. It is that temper of spirit in which we accept His dealings with us as good, and therefore without disputing or resisting.”  
(Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words, by Vines, pg.401)

It is the ability to bear misfortunes with calmness without becoming embittered or resentful by it.

You can see prautes as the inwrought grace of God working gentleness in the **life of Joseph** towards the evil treatment of his brothers towards him:

(Gen.50:19-21) “Do not be afraid, for am I in God’s place? And as for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive. So therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones.’ So he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.”

You might think that isn’t my disposition. Yes, but it is the **disposition of Jesus Christ**:

(2 Cor.10:1) “Now I, Paul, myself urge you by **the meekness (tes prautes) and gentleness (epieikeia) [forbearance] of Christ** – I who am meek (tapeinos) [humble] when face to face with you, but bold toward you when absent!”

### 2. Messianic prophesy established praus as 1 of 3 key qualities of the disposition of Christ – “**And in Thy majesty ride on victoriously, for the cause of truth and meekness and righteousness.**” (Ps.45:4) [LXX / prautes]

(Zech.9:9) “Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout in triumph, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; He is just and endowed with salvation, **humble (praus)**, and mounted on a donkey, even on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

Jesus Christ fulfilled this prophecy on the way to the CROSS in Matt.21:1-11

(Gal.4-5). “And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled (tapeinos) Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even the death on a cross.” (Phil.2:8)

(Matt.11:28-30) “Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-lade, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am **gentle (praus) and humble (tapeinos) in heart**; and you shall find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My load is light.”

**3. The fruit of gentleness is supernaturally produced by the indwelling Holy Spirit as a disposition of Christ when the CAB walks by means of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor.6:19-20; Gal.5:16).**

(John 15:26-27) “When the Helper comes, **whom I will send to you from the Father**, that is the Spirit of Truth, Who proceeds from the Father, He will bear witness of Me. And you will bear witness also, because you have been with Me from the beginning.” [Note the Trinity or Godhead]

The fruit of the Spirit is contrasted to the works of the flesh (OSN) in Gal.5:16-23). Gentleness is the 8th fruit of the Holy Spirit listed in Gal.5:22-23.

**4. Therefore gentleness (prautes) is a virtue of the divine nature produced by the divine power of the indwelling Holy Spirit and is not considered a human virtue of the OSN (2 Pet.1:3-4).**

It is a primary essential divine virtue of spiritual growth maturity and NMDV.

(James 1:21) “Therefore putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, **in humility (prautes) receive** (dechomai / a.m.impv.2pl) **the word implanted**, which is able to save your soul.”

(Col.3:10)And have **put on the new man** who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him.”

(Col.2:12-14) “And so, as those who have been chosen f God, holy and beloved, **put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other**, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. And beyond all these things **put on love**, which is the perfect bond of unity.” [Note 8 virtues of NMDV]

It is commanded of the spiritually mature CAB (1 Tim.6:11) (dioko p.a.impv.2ps); Gal.6:1-2; Titus 3:1-2).

**5. It is a qualification for the function of the office of pastor-teacher of a local church (2Tim.2:24-25; 1 Cor.4:21).**

(1 Tim.3:3) “Not addicted to wine or pugnacious, but **gentle**, un-contentious, free from the love of money.”

**6. Gentleness is an essential disposition of Christ during undeserved suffering (U/S) in the CWL**

**(1 Pet.3:14-17)**

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|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • Blessed                             | (1 Pet.3:14) [1cc / true] | Don't fear or be troubled by U/S     |
| • Sanctify Christ as Lord             | (1 Pet.3:15a)             | Heart                                |
| • Give an answer for the hope in you  | (1 Pet.3:15b)             | With <b>gentleness</b> and reverence |
| • Keep a good conscience and behavior | (1 Pet.3:16)              | Will shame those who slander         |
| • Suffer for right                    | (1 Pet.3:17) [1cc / true] | U/S is the Will of God               |