

Harnessed

It is hard to imagine the effect on a mature mind of coming in contact for the first time with the Beatitudes. Our common trouble is that we have heard these words so long that we mistakenly suppose we comprehend them. Is it true that the meek inherit the earth? Most people do not think so. But what if “meek” means “harnessed”? What if Christ means that the final effectiveness comes through humble-minded persons, who have transcended the cult of empty freedom by finding One to whom they are fully committed? Then we see the linguistic connection between the third Beatitude and the Yoke passage (Matt. 11:28–30) and realize that the call, “Come unto me,” the clearest call to commitment Christ is known to have made, involves a new level of freedom to those who are yoked with him. Utopia we do not expect, because of human finitude and chronic self-centeredness, but we do know, from experience, that those who achieve this kind of meekness are the ones who make the world relatively better...

(A Place to Stand: A Practical Guide to Christianity in Changing Times by Elton Trueblood, Harper Collings Publishers, Kindle, n.d., Page 37 & 38 of 115)