

Nourishment for the Neshama

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And the meek shall inherit the earth - an insight

When I first heard that phrase, I imagined that it had a simple meaning – that the meek refers to the righteous of the world, who would one day be vindicated and recognized and survive in times of Moshiach. That would be just and good.

As I think of it in the face of the world today, I have an insight, perhaps not different from the above, but surely a broader understanding of what might be meant as meek and why meek is used and not the word righteous.

“Righteous” would include those who pray and connect to Hashem and do what is right. In light of current events, I realize that the word “meek” conveys an additional quality -those, who pray and connect to Hashem and do not deviate from what is right even though they are being abused, hated, targeted and more.

Clearly there are righteous people who are not necessarily meek, who possibly conduct themselves with righteousness but also with survival instincts and self-defense, displaying a certain power and dominance within time and space. What does meek imply? Is this a hint at where we have to move to, a place of humility to comprehend Who is truly protecting us?

Perhaps those who shall inherit the earth are those who are meek because they do not follow a path that survival alone might dictate be followed, but rather a path where their actions and survival depend on emunah, consciousness in harmony with Hashem’s consciousness and actualizing these beliefs. What looks meek is holiness, meaning that those who shall inherit the earth are not those whose expertise and mission is to dominate time and space as a first priority.

How does a person become meek? Perhaps the spiritual journeys of those who have overcome the internally damaging effects of abuse are the ones to whom we can look to light our way out of golus to becoming meek, for they have learned to transcend emotions and attachments deeply connected to suffering and the fear of the suffering.

May Hashem help us draw ourselves under the chuppah with Hashem, under a canopy of service to Hashem..