

Titus 3:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men.

Analysis

To speak evil of no man (μηδένα βλασφημεῖν, mēdena blasphēmein)—βλασφημέω (blasphēmeō, slander/revile) is strong language, the same verb for blaspheming God. Malicious speech against humans maligns God's image. **To be no brawlers** (ἀμάχους εἶναι, amachous einai)—ἀμάχος (amachos, peaceable/not combative), avoiding unnecessary quarrels (2 Timothy 2:24).

But gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men (έπιεικεῖς, πᾶσαν ἐνδεικνυμένους πραῦτητα πρὸς πάντας ἀνθρώπους, epieikeis, pasan endeiknenous prautēta pros pantas anthrōpous)—έπιεικής (epiekēs, gentle/reasonable/yielding). πραῦτης (prautēs, meekness/gentleness) is strength under control (Moses was meekest, Numbers 12:3, yet confronted Pharaoh). πρὸς πάντας ἀνθρώπους (pros pantas anthrōpous, toward all men)—universal application, not just believers.

Historical Context

Christians faced constant provocation from pagan neighbors, Jewish opponents, and Roman authorities. The temptation toward defensive belligerence or revolutionary violence was real (Zealot option in Judea). But Jesus's teaching (Matthew 5:38-48) required radical enemy-love, trusting God's vindication rather than self-assertion.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. Do you slander others—politicians, neighbors, even enemies—or do you guard your tongue from malicious speech?
2. Are you known for gentleness and meekness, or do you constantly engage in verbal combat and quarrels?
3. How do you show meekness toward all people, including those who oppose or mistreat you?

Interlinear Text

μηδένα βλασφημεῖν ἀμάχοντς εῖναι ἐπιεικεῖς πάντας
no man To speak evil of no brawlers to be but gentle all
G3367 G987 G269 G1511 G1933 G3956

ἐνδεικνυμένους πραότητα πρὸς πάντας ἀνθρώπους
shewing meekness unto all men
G1731 G4236 G4314 G3956 G444

Additional Cross-References

Ephesians 4:31 (Evil): Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:

1 Timothy 3:3 (Parallel theme): Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;

Ephesians 4:2 (Parallel theme): With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;

1 Peter 3:10 (Evil): For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:

Galatians 6:1 (Parallel theme): Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

Matthew 11:29 (Parallel theme): Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

1 Timothy 3:11 (Parallel theme): Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things.

James 4:11 (Evil): Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge.

Galatians 5:22 (Parallel theme): But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

1 Peter 3:8 (Parallel theme): Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous: