

*Good and upright is the LORD: therefore will he teach sinners in the way. The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way. All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies. (Psalm 25:8-10)*

Four things are worthy of our attention as we contemplate this Scripture: the fitness of the Teacher, the need of guidance, the qualifications of a learner, and the reward of obedience.

The Lord is well-fitted to teach us. He is perfectly upright. That is, He is perfect in all His ways and judgments. He knows what we need to be taught. He is also good. He is willing to impart to us that which we desperately need. He will not keep us ignorant of that which we need to know if we sincerely desire to be taught of Him.

Divine guidance is needed because we are sinners. We consistently miss the mark. We are turned out of the right way, and can no more find our way back to God than a senseless sheep to his fold. We need the Good Shepherd to teach us the way we should go.

But all of us who need to be taught will never learn the right way for the simple reason that we are unwilling to listen to the One Who can teach us. He guides those who are meek. Only the meek will listen to what the Lord says, learn from His instructions, and yield to His Lordship. Only the meek are teachable. The stubborn, proud, and self-willed person can never know the right way because he will not listen and heed the word of God. He needs to be broken.

Those who do become broken, who take their place as erring sinners, who despair of their own clever ingenuity, their vain intelligence, who throw down their arms of rebellion against God, and begin to walk in His precepts learn something other than the right way. They learn that all of God's paths lead into mercy and truth. Regardless of the issue at hand, the particular need we may presently have, the hopeless problem that defies all human solution...upon surrender to the claims and the covenant of God upon our lives we will discover the truth of His testimonies and His amazing mercy and goodness toward us.

-C.M.