

finding the Mystery of the Peanut

George Washington Carver, American botanist and inventor, was the scientist who developed hundreds of useful products from the peanut.

His reputation was based on his research into and promotion of alternative crops to cotton, such as peanuts, soybeans and sweet potatoes, which also aided nutrition for farm families. He wanted poor farmers to grow alternative crops both as a source of their own food and as a source of other products to improve their quality of life.



“When I was young,” Carver related, “I said to God, ‘God, tell me the mystery of the universe.’ But God answered, ‘That knowledge is reserved for Me alone.’ So I said, ‘God, tell me the mystery of the peanut.’ Then God said, ‘Well, George, that’s more nearly your size.’ And He told me.”

His comment showed his characteristic modesty.

Meekness is having a patient and humble outlook on life. Meekness is being mild of temper, not easily provoked or irritated; patient under injuries, not vain, haughty or resentful; forbearing, submissive.

Dr. David Jeremiah, senior pastor of Shadow Mountain Community Church in El Cajon, California, writes about meekness in his book, *Turning Points*. “This character trait seems like a tall order and hardly applicable to daily life,” he said. “Meekness is truly hard work; it’s being strong enough to be gentle in whatever situation you are placed. When you understand the importance and power of meekness, God can use you to glorify Him as well as be useful to others.”

James 3:13 says, “Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom.”

It doesn’t matter so much what your position in life is; it matters how you respond to your position. And when you have the attitude of meekness, you are sure to succeed in the eyes of the Lord.

Carver died on Jan. 5, 1943, at the age of 78 from complications resulting from a fall. On his grave was written: *He could have added fortune to fame, but caring for neither, he found happiness and honor in being helpful to the world.*

It became a fitting commentary on a life of service and meekness.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth (Matthew 5:5 ESV).

– Beecher Hunter