

*Meaning vs. Meanness  
(Part One)*

What does it mean  
to be mean?

If you don't care about  
meaning,  
you easily become  
mean.

Meaning requires  
openness;  
you are closed down by  
meanness.  
Meaning invites  
inquiry;  
meanness results from  
obduracy.  
Meaning wants to make  
sense;  
meanness is simply  
senseless.

Meanness is rife  
with spite and rancor;  
meaning is redolent  
of right and candor.  
Meanness is dour  
and repulsive;  
meaning is merry  
and inclusive.  
Meanness denies  
and destroys;  
meaning affirms  
and enjoys.

You can be mean  
without meaning it;  
you can't pursue meaning  
without wanting it.

Meaning engages  
our subjectivity;  
meanness is expressed  
in subjection.  
Meanness stems from a  
stunted spirit;  
meaning comes from an  
open mind.

Meanness not only lacks  
love,  
but also spews forth  
hate.  
Meaning not only expresses  
faith,  
but also encourages  
hope.

Meanness leads to  
loneliness and isolation;  
meaning depends on  
community and collaboration

Fortune and fame without  
meaning  
will make you  
mean.

It should be obvious,  
therefore, that  
meanness is  
meaningless!

*Msgr. Walter Niebrzydowski*  
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[Fr-Walter@nyc.rr.com](mailto:Fr-Walter@nyc.rr.com)  
[www.fatherwaltersparish.org](http://www.fatherwaltersparish.org)