



HUMILITY VS. PRIDE

Writing about Humility is a humbling experience.

The Bible says humility is the appropriate posture we should have with God.

The dictionary definition of humility, ----- A low self-regard and sense of unworthiness.

Humility is the way to true greatness, 'The Bible says he who exalts himself will be humbled, but whoever humbleth himself shall be exalted" Luke18:14b.

Pride on the other hand comes before the fall. Jesus told His followers the story of the prideful Pharisee and the humble Publican in Luke 18:12-14.

Humility is an extremely desirable trait. Most of us as Christians crave humility and say we are humble, but when it comes down to the test we fail. In place of being humble we use certain phrases that would portray us as being humble. Words such as 'Oh really it was nothing, or 'anyone could have done it", while we are congratulating ourselves for how humble we look. Humility is more than a performance, it should be our daily dress, Humility gets God's attention. Read His words in Isaiah 66:2b NIV "These are the ones I look on with favor, those who are humble and contrite in spirit and tremble at my word". Humility draws the favor of our Heavenly Father. We cannot twist, compromise or excuse God's word and claim that we are humble. "God says I must give, but I don't think I should give so much'. Oh really? Do you think God is mean that He won't repay you double what you gave away?

Humility is honestly assessing ourselves considering God's holiness and our sinfulness. Our Christians values should always remain unchanged.

Humility & Meekness

Matthew 5:5, Psalms 37:1, Galatians 5:23. Meekness does not mean "weak", from a Christian perspective, it means humbling ourselves and trusting God to win the battles we go through in our everyday lives, instead of going through extremes to win the battle at any cost. Meekness is 'strength under control' rather than 'strength seeking control.

Humility and Wisdom

James 4:10, Here James is telling us to stop being motivated by the world's way of living to get exaltation for ourselves. We must have the things we want, not things we need, while there are others around us that need help, we must get the respect we feel we deserve or living in the comfort and pleasure we crave. God wants us to quit the world's way of pursuing those things and trust Him. He will exalt us when the time is right.

This lifestyle requires real humility.

How Can One Be Humble?

When we understand our place in the greater scheme of things it leads us to a mindset of modesty known as humility. It requires us to adopt a humbler attitude. We won't take ourselves, our goals or failures too seriously. Humility calls us to show respect and consideration to others. A humble person doesn't show arrogance, aggression and boastfulness. The humble Christian should set aside all selfishness and surrender in obedience to God and His word. Being humble is having the ability to realize that even when you succeed there's no reason to gloat about it. Being humble enables us to recognize our value in this world while acknowledging the many other people who share our mission. Being humble we should submit ourselves to authority without graveling. Are we willing to do as Jesus did? He humbled himself (Philippians 2:6-11)

Zephaniah 2:3 says, "Seek the Lord all you humble of the land-----". I do believe God says He is the same yesterday, today and will be forever, therefore we cannot say God only wanted the old Testament people to be humble. It requires us living in this age to be humble. Do we want to leave a heritage for our children and grandchildren? Would we prefer them to live a life of humility and servanthood or owning things that will pass. All the houses and money we leave them, they might blow it, but having the memory of a humble father, mother, grandfather and grandmother will last a lifetime with them. My mother's humility lives on in me.

Proverbs 22:4

As Christians we should walk in humility and fear of the Lord, we should walk humbly with God, reverence him by submitting to the commands of his words. Don't be like Eve who completely changed God's words. We must have such low thoughts of ourselves so that we are able to behave humbly towards God and our fellow citizens. When we fear God, we will be humble and by doing so God will exalt us to the place He wants us to be.

Let's examine our hearts and cultivate friendships that will lovingly tell us when we are not walking in humility, since the pursuit of humility cannot be a solitary journey.

The Perils of Pride

Pride Comes before the fall. Proverbs 16:18 Pride is the root of all sins.

Isaiah 14:12-14, Here Lucifer becomes prideful and threatens to overthrow God's kingdom. He was thrown swiftly out of Heaven. God speaks about 6 things that he hates in Proverbs 6:16-19, among them a proud look. Proverbs 8:13 says the fear of the Lord is to hate evil, pride and arrogancy-----From God's perspective, pride is a serious sin. Proverbs 16:5, everyone that is proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord. Pride takes many forms but has only one end, self-glorification. When we glorify self, we rob God of His Glory. A proud person uses the personal pronoun regularly I did this, this belongs to me. Let's check ourselves, did we achieve all we have by 'our' knowledge "our" strength, 'our' education? Is 'our' knowledge, 'our' wealth really 'ours'? Really? Remember God hates pride. Because God opposes the proud, He reveals to us how much he hates it James 4:6, 1Peter 5:5. He opposes pride so, the prideful person will not escape rebuke from God.

In our society we hear and read how pride brings down leaders.

By uncovering pride which God hates and introducing us to humility which He promotes, He is leading us to true greatness. Let us as children of God begin walking the path to true greatness today. As we said before the journey to humility and the desire to be less prideful is not a journey to travel on our own. We should adopt teachable attitudes and allow a trusted person to help us on this journey.

"Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God "

Philippians 2:3-5