Honor, Humility, And Holiness

Introduction:

A few days ago, the body of George H.W. Bush lay in state in the nation's Capitol. Bob Dole, former Senator from Kansas, former candidate for President of the United States, sat before the coffin in a wheel chair. He struggled to get up as someone helped him stand before the casket. Another seen was a boy scout who stood before the coffin and saluted for one minute. This got me to thinking about three words.

I) Honor

- A) Definition-honesty, fairness or integrity in one's beliefs and actions.
 - 1. Can be used in reference to one's character
 - a. To value good qualities.
 - b. A word closely connected is virtue. Moral excellence requires one to be honorable.
 - 2. What one shows to another. To value others.
 - a. Honor your mother and father, *Matthew* 15.4.
 - b. Honor your wife as the weaker vessel, *1*Peter 3.7.

- c. Honor the Lord with your possession, *Pro.*3.9
- d. Honor the Son, *John 5.23*.

B) Honor precludes

- 1. Acting dishonorably such as
 - a. Cursing one's mother or father-*Exodus* 21.15,17
 - b. Abusing one's wife.
 - c. Acting selfishly with one's possessions.
 - d. Rejecting Christ
- 2. In short, sin.

C) Examples

- David was honorable and Saul acted dishonorably. 1 Samuel 24.17
- 2. Those who searched the scritures daily (*Acts* 17.11) were honorable while those who stirred up the crowd were not honorable, *Acts* 17.5.

II) Humility, Pro. 15.33, 29.23

- A) Definition -- the quality or condition of being humble; modest opinion or estimate of one's own importance, rank, etc.
 - 1. Lowliness, meekness, submissiveness.

- 2. To be humble not proud or arrogant; modest opinion of one's self.
 - having a feeling of insignificance, inferiority, subservience.
 - b. Both speaks of how we view ourselves and how we treat others.

B) Examples of those who were and weren't

- 1. Pharaoh who is the Lord that I should obey His voice? *Exodus* 5.2.
 - a. Pharaoh found out the hard way. The Lord is the one who turned his water into blood, sent frogs and flies, covered the land with darkness, sent locust to devour the crops, and killed Pharaoh's first-born son.
 - Despite all of these signs, despite Pharaoh knowing who the Lord is, he did not submit to God's will.
- 2. Moses Numbers 12.3.
 - He submitted to God's will and went back to Egypt to confront Pharaoh and lead the children of Israel.
 - b. He humbled himself before God, and God raised him up.

C) Humility requires some things

- To be honest with yourself-see your faults and abilities. To see ourselves as God sees us, James 1.22-25.
- 2. To lower one's self
 - In order to worship God one must pay homage, bow down before, kiss one's feet.
 - b. Think of the woman in *Luke* 7.38.
- 3. To serve others- *Matthew 20.25-28*. The servant asks what they can do.
- 4. To be drawn near to God, *James 4.6,10*

III) Holiness, Holy

- A) Definition sanctification, separation to God, conduct befitting those separated.
 - 1. It refers to being pure and cleansed.
 - 2. Deals with one's character, conduct, relationship to God, and God Himself.
 - 3. Leviticus shows how the priest were to be consecrated and regulated how they were to act, marry, clothing, etc. Leviticus is summed up "I am holy, you be holy."
 - 4. This is carried over in the N.T. 1 Peter 1.13-16.
 - 5. We this in *Acts* 7.33.
- B) How does one become and remain holy?

- 1. Being redeemed and cleansed of sin, 1 Peter 1.18-19
- 2. By living free from sin, 1 Peter 1.22

Conclusion:

Two of these words, honor and humility, were used to describe George H.W. Bush. A man can be humble and honorable but still be lost. But a man can not be saved with honor and humility. To be willing to come to God and submit to His will.