



Understanding Christian Humility

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- Confidence is not pride. When brethren mistake one for the other, they do so in ignorance.
- True humility is not an abject, groveling, self-despising spirit; it is a right estimate of ourselves as God sees us.
- Humility is not denying the power we have, but an admission that the power we have comes through us and not from us. To deny our power is to lie.

Understanding Christian Humility

- Pretended or excessive humility prevents one from using his talents in the kingdom, and does harm, just as does pride.
- In spiritual matters and in yielding in obedience to God, humility is paramount.

Old Testament Humility Texts

- The Lord will save the humble.
 - Psalms 18:25-27 - “With the merciful You will show Yourself merciful; With a blameless man You will show Yourself blameless; 26 With the pure You will show Yourself pure; And with the devious You will show Yourself shrewd. 27 For You will save the humble people, But will bring down haughty looks.”

Old Testament Humility Texts

- Humility brings wisdom.
 - Prov. 11:2 - “When pride comes, then comes shame; But with the humble is wisdom.”
- Humility brings honor.
 - Prov. 29:23 - “A man’s pride will bring him low, But the humble in spirit will retain honor.”

Old Testament Humility Texts

- A contrite and humble spirit captures the Lord's interest and care.
 - Isa. 57:15 - "For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: 'I dwell in the high and holy place, With him who has a contrite and humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the humble, And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.'"
 - Isa. 66:1-2 - "Thus says the LORD: 'Heaven is My throne, And earth is My footstool. Where is the house that you will build Me? And where is the place of My rest? 2 For all those things My hand has made, And all those things exist,' says the LORD. 'But on this one will I look: on him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, and who trembles at My word.'"

Old Testament Humility Texts

- The Lord will establish a humble people who trust in Him.
 - Zeph. 3:11-12 - “In that day you shall not be shamed for any of your deeds In which you transgress against Me; For then I will take away from your midst Those who rejoice in your pride, And you shall no longer be haughty In My holy mountain. 12 I will leave in your midst A meek and humble people, And they shall trust in the name of the LORD.”

New Testament Humility Texts

- We must humble ourselves as little children.
 - Matt. 18:3-5 - “Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. 4 Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. 5 Whoever receives one little child like this in My name receives Me.”

New Testament Humility Texts

- We must choose to cultivate humility.
 - Matt. 23:8-12 - “But you, do not be called ‘Rabbi’; for One is your Teacher, the Christ, and you are all brethren. 9 Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven. 10 And do not be called teachers; for One is your Teacher, the Christ. 11 But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant. 12 And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

New Testament Humility Texts

- We should not set our mind upon high things, but rather seek to associate with the humble.
 - Rom. 12:16 - “Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.”

New Testament Humility Texts

- We robe ourselves in humility.
 - Col. 3:12-14 - “Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. 14 But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.”

New Testament Humility Texts

- God rewards the humble.
 - James 4:6-10 - “But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: ‘God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.’ 7 Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. 8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. 9 Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. 10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.”

New Testament Humility Texts

- 1Peter 5:5-6 - “Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.”

Illustrations Of Humility

- What characteristic demonstrated Moses' humility?
 - Num. 12:3, 7 - “Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth. 7 Not so with My servant Moses; He is faithful in all My house.”

Illustrations Of Humility

- What characteristic demonstrated Job's humility?
 - Job 1:20-22 - "Then Job arose, tore his robe, and shaved his head; and he fell to the ground and worshiped. 21 And he said: 'Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked shall I return there. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; Blessed be the name of the LORD.' 22 In all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong."

Illustrations Of Humility

- What characteristic demonstrated David's humility?
 - Acts 13:22 - "And when He had removed him, He raised up for them David as king, to whom also He gave testimony and said, 'I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My own heart, who will do all My will.'"

Application Of Humility

- What will manifest our own humility toward God?
 - 1John 1:8-10 - “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.”

- Luke 18:9-14 - “Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: 10 ‘Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, “God, I thank You that I am not like other men--extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. 12 I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.” 13 And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, “God, be merciful to me a sinner!” 14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.’”

- “Being a humble instrument in the hands of our heavenly Father, I desire that all my words and acts may be according to His will; and that it may be so, I give thanks to the Almighty, and seek His aid.” (Abraham Lincoln)
- True humility is intelligent self-respect that keeps us from thinking too highly or too meanly of ourselves. It makes us mindful of the nobility God meant us to have. Yet it makes us modest by reminding us how far we have come short of what we can be.
- Humility is strong-not bold; quiet-not speechless; sure-not arrogant.

Understanding Christian Humility

- We must willingly humble ourselves before the Lord.
- We must put His will (as revealed in the Bible) above our own will.
- We must set aside pride, arrogance, and self-justification.