

Modesty — continued

Jesus provided the perfect example of humility by not hanging on to equality with God (v6), emptying himself (v7, NKJV *made Himself of no reputation*), choosing to serve others (v7), and being willing to die for others (v8). The less we follow the selfish ambitions and conceit of this world and the more we think and live like Jesus, the humbler we will be.

Satan and his world does not want us to be humble. All temptations to sin start with that which is the opposite of humility. “Each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his OWN desires” (James 1.13–14). Satan uses our own selfish ambition and desires to tempt us to sin. We must resist him at every turn. We must pray to God, “do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one” (Matthew 6.13).

We must “humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God” (1 Peter 5.6). Are you walking humbly with your God (Micah 6.8)? If not, why not? What changes do you need to make? If you are walking humbly with your God, be careful to remain humble as pride comes before the fall (Proverbs 16.18; 1 Corinthians 10.12).

News and Notes

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Assembly Times
Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm
Wednesday: 7 pm

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

Humility by John Gentry

Humility is a trait we all need to be reminded of. In our self-saturated society of “Me, myself, and I,” it is so important that we put forth great effort to remain humble in the sight of God and other people.

In Psalm 25.9 David said, “The humble the LORD guides in justice, And the humble He teaches His way.” To be led by God should be the desire of all Christians. To be led in what is right and in God’s way, we must humble ourselves. Approaching the Lord in humility, we need to pray for God to lead us in His way, in the way of truth (Psalm 86.11–13).

In Proverbs 3.33–34, we learn that God gives grace to the humble. But what is involved in being humble? This passage is quoted twice in the New Testament. The context of both passages helps us to understand what is involved in being humble. In James 4.6–10 we learn that humbling ourselves involves submitting to God, resisting the devil, drawing near to God, and cleansing and purifying our lives and hearts in

godly sorrow for sin.

In 1 Peter 5.5–9 we learn that humbling ourselves involves casting all our care on God (instead of arrogantly trying to deal with it ourselves), being sober-minded or self-controlled, being vigilant or watchful, resisting the devil and his attempts to devour us, and remaining steadfast in the faith.

Sometimes all that is involved in living a holy life pleasing to God will be summed up in just two or three primary points. Jesus did this when he gave the greatest two commandments—love God and love others—and said that all other commandments hung on those two (Matthew 22.34–40). In Micah 6.8 we read, “what does the LORD require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?” And in Isaiah 66.1–2 we read, “Thus says the Lord: ... But on this one will I look: On him who is humble [NKJV *poor*] and of a contrite spirit, And who trembles at My word.”

These two passages underscore the place of importance humility has in the eyes of God. When we boil everything down to what is absolutely necessary or to what is at the core or foundation of all godly living, humility plays a crucial role.

In Matthew 5.5 Jesus said, “Blessed are the humble [NKJV *meek*], For they shall inherit the earth.” Jesus either quoted or alluded to Psalm 37.11. The context of this psalm provides additional insight into humility and inheriting the earth.

In Psalm 37.8/9–11 we learn that “the humble” (v11, NKJV *the meek*) are paralleled with “those who put their hope in the LORD” (v9 CSB, NKJV *those who wait on the LORD*). The humble are contrasted with “evildoers” (v9) and “the wicked” (v10). “Inherit the earth/land” (v11) is paralleled with “the abundance of peace” (v11) and contrasted with being “cut off” (v9) and being “no more” (v10). Trusting and following God in humility is the only path to abundant, eternal life with God.

In Philippians 2.1–11 we learn that the opposite of humility is “selfish ambition” (v3), “conceit” (v3), considering self as more important than others (v3), and seeking our own interests (v4). Humility is living with others in love and harmony (v2), considering others more important than self (v3), seeking the interests of others (v4), and serving others (vv5–8).

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