

## Understanding Humility

5/31/2020

**Humility:** When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom. Proverbs 11:2 "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble" (Proverbs 3:34, 1Peter 5:5, James 4:6.) The Bible describes humility as meekness, lowliness, and absence of self. The Greek word translated "humility" literally means "lowliness of mind." Humility is a heart attitude, not merely an outward demeanor.

Humble yourself in the sight of God. Deflate your inflated pride. Don't think less of yourself (it's okay to have a healthy "pride" for yourself and your loved ones), but think of yourself less—not too high or low. Here is the difference:

**P**utting yourself first. Saying, "I'm Number one." (S.I.N.) I will ascend above..."

Isa 14:12-14

**R**elational superiority—thinking that you are better than everyone else- arrogant.

**I**ndependence from God – Leaning on your own understanding—no help needed.

**D**ependence on self—"I know what's best for me and how to get it to please me."

**E**xalting self—"What's best is what's best for me. I look out for my own interest. I love me!" Thou shalt not get in my way! I'm the most important at the moment.

**H**atred of evil = the fear of God. Prov 8:13-- HATE evil-- don't even tolerate it!

**U**nderstanding your origins—"I am fearfully and wonderfully made." Ps 139:14

**M**odest view of oneself—"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

**B**eing thankful to God for **H**is mercy—"O God be merciful to me. I'm a sinner."

**L**eaning not on your own understanding. "In all your ways acknowledge Him..."

**E**xalting our eternal God—**understanding our destiny.** "Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever." Psalm 73:25-26

## Five biblical motivational influences for becoming humble.

**F**aithful gathering and study of the word of God-- "Assemble the people, the men and the women and children and the alien who is in your town, so that they may hear and learn and **fear** the LORD your God, and be careful to observe all the words of this law. Their children, who have not known, will hear and learn to **fear** the LORD your God, as long as you live on the land." (Deut.31:12,13) "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness." (2 Tim 3:16)

**E**xamine God's creation-- "When the people saw the thunder and lightning and heard the trumpet and saw the mountain in smoke, they trembled with **fear**. They stayed at a distance and said to Moses, "Speak to us yourself and we will listen. But do not have God speak to us or we will die."(Exodus 20:18,19) "For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. (Romans 1:20)

**A**pply your heart to understanding-- "...turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding...then you will understand the **fear** of the Lord and find the knowledge of God." (Prov 2:2) Pray. "Confess Jesus as Lord." (Phil 2:10)

**R**ecognize the wrath of God-- "There is no **fear** of God before their eyes." Romans 3:18 "For we know him who said, "It is mine to avenge; I will repay, and again, "The Lord will judge his people." "It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." (Hebrews 10:30, 31) (W) Righteous Anger Towards Humans See John 3: 21-36

**S**trong hatred towards sin-- "To **fear** the LORD is to hate evil; I hate pride and arrogance, evil behavior and perverse speech." (Proverbs 8:13)

### Questions to consider:

1. What aspect of PRIDE do you struggle with the most? Why do you think this is?
2. Do you have a too high or low of a view of yourself? Do you love/respect God?
3. What do you most enjoy about your time studying His word and fellowship?
4. Have you grown in your obedience to God's moral will? In what way recently?
5. Do you have a healthy respect for God? Do you think about the consequences?
6. How did God's truth speak to you this morning from His Word to your heart?
7. What adjustments do you need to make in your life as a result of this truth?