

ATTITUDE OF HUMILITY

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Proverbs 22:4, "By humility and the fear of the LORD are riches, and honor, and life."

That is what God wants to give to all of us all the time, to bring us to a place of great blessing, honor, prosperity, protection, in everything, spiritually, physically, and in every way. There is no one so weak and helpless that God cannot use them or teach them, in fact, the weaker and less intelligent they are, the easier God can work.

We need to be more humble and less intelligent of ourselves. You will notice this in many cases mentioned in the Bible. Take Jesus' disciples for an example. When He came to select His disciples, the twelve men that He chose to assist Him and to carry on His work after He was gone, were poor fishermen with very little education, if any, and no previous training or special education for this type of work.

These men were used in a very remarkable way to be a great blessing to others. These men did menial work, poor fishermen, not men of great mentality. They were men who would never be chosen by man, they would have been titled as 'not fit for the job.'

However, that was their greatest asset. They had a great God on their side to guide and train them for this great undertaking. They did not need any special education or previous training from man.

In the same way, our knowledge and wisdom are not to be self-acquired, or self-obtained, they are to be

imparted to us by God. Human knowledge and wisdom brings about pride and self-satisfaction.

James 1:5, *"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."*

As 1st Peter 5:6 tells us, we need to *"Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time."*

We are to be taught, trained, and prepared by God. The less we do and try of ourselves, the better it is for us and the quicker that God can help us. The greatest hindrance to real success in Christian work or in our personal life is human wisdom and plans taking the place of God.

When these are completely laid aside, then God can work, whether in Christian work or in our personal life. God can then prepare us quickly to bring glory to His Name and be real instruments in His Hands to bring the light and truth to many precious souls.

One of the greatest factors in this life for God to be able to teach and train us and to help us to be a blessing to others, is this 'Attitude of Humility.' This 'Attitude of Humility' has great blessing and many manifestations of God's power connected with it and is brought out in the 5th chapter of 1st Peter, verse 5.

"And be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble."

We are to be clothed with humility, covered with it, having the appearance and attitude of humility totally in our every action and appearance. Then Peter said, *"for God resisteth the proud."*

If we have any other attitude than a humble spirit, God is against us. WE DON'T WANT GOD TO BE AGAINST US.

It does not mean that God is angry with us because we are proud and not humble. But we cannot have any success at all in our dealings with God unless we have that meek and humble spirit within.

"And giveth grace to the humble." That means that God is able then to work at once for the humble.

God will then be able to work in their benefit, give them power to be a blessing, to be blessed of God and able to overcome. He helps the humble in the best way that He knows how and will manifest His power in

every way. He is just as favorable as He can be. This humility enables Him to fulfill Romans 8:31-32.

"If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?"

There is no use for God to be for us, if we are not humble, because that will render Him powerless to work on our behalf; it hinders Him from doing the best He can for us. As we take our 'Attitude of Humility,' that enables God to fulfill 1st Peter 5:6, *"Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:"*

That means that if we take that 'Attitude of Humility,' there will come a time, sooner or later, to receive that blessing of true humility. That blessing comes only in proportion to our 'Attitude of Humility'. If it comes slow, it is only because we are slow in our attitude. Just the same as we humble ourselves before Him, then He will be able to exalt us.

God delights to take someone of no account in this world and exalt them, as He did for Abraham, Moses, Joseph, and many others. God is delighted to do something for anyone if they will only let Him do it.

When we allow ourselves to be clothed with humility, God can, and will, exalt us with His exaltation, the kind that makes us happy and content, spiritually, physically, financially, and in every other way. It also enables God to take us into our full inheritance. That is what it means to be exalted in due time. That enables us to see how valuable this 'Attitude of Humility' really is.

In the 18th Chapter of Matthew, Jesus explains how to be humble and that this is the only pathway to all success in this life and Eternal Life hereafter. Matthew 18:1-4,

"At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven."

That is true humility, the attitude of a little child who will go to their parent with a question and believe

with all their heart in what their parent tells them. That is one of the best definitions of true humility, a willingness to believe without a question what is written in the Word of God.

The devil always likes to get someone to raise a question about some part of the Bible, whether it be on healing, finances, or some other vital doctrine of trust on God. This all revolves around this 'Attitude of Humility', wanting to give their own thoughts and ideas and what they think ahead of what is written in God's Word.

We need to believe God's written Word, accept it in a spirit of humility, without getting our own thoughts, plans, or ideas in the way. That is what James tells us in James 1:21, "receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls." Or receive God's Word in a truly humble spirit and save your soul.

The first mark of humility is to accept the Word of God without a question, not try to make excuses or try to get around it in some way but to accept it in a humble spirit and it will save our souls. This is the first great principle of humility, accept what God says without a question.

The man sick of palsy, lying on a bed in Matthew 9:2, had the 'Attitude of Humility' that Jesus desires us to have; he was willing to believe what Jesus said. When Jesus saw how willing he was, He said to the man, "Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee."

The scribes, who came with a proud spirit, were determined to get something besides God's Word, ridiculed and accused Jesus of blasphemy.

But Jesus, in Matthew 9:4-6, "knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts? For whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house."

The man arose immediately; God's Word, spoken through His Son was enough for the man. Let us take notice to the value of that humility; to just accept what God says without a question. It is an open door to the richest treasures for us, as we accept the bare Word of God without a question.

The next part is to meet things without a murmur or complaint according to God's Word. This is a most valuable part and will bring about a rapid growth and development that will bring us to the place where God can do great things for us.

We have many examples of this throughout the Bible but Jesus Christ Himself stands out as our greatest example. His humility should be our 'Attitude of Humility.'

Philippians 2:5-8, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."

That is how Jesus met things, without murmuring or complaining, without strife or argument, but left His wrongs in the hands of His Almighty Father.

1 Peter 2:22-23, "Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously."

He did not try to right His wrongs in His own strength, but He turned them over to God, as we are told in Romans 12:19-21, "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good."

Jesus Christ never made a move to defend Himself, or right His own wrongs. He was obedient even unto death. Philippians 2:9, "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:" (vs. 12-14) Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure. Do all things without murmurings and disputings."

No matter what people may say to upset us, to rob or cheat us, or wrong and talk about us, we cannot murmur or complain, but leave our wrongs in the hands of the Almighty God of the universe. He is surely able to deliver thee. Jesus did that, and He entered into His inheritance and now has "all power and authority in Heaven and earth."

Another great example would be found in the Old Testament. Moses not only believed God in all that He told him but met everything as God directed. He was the meekest man on earth at that time, a man of faith, who could pray to God and receive answers.

When his time came to pass from this earth, we find a man of 120 years of age, in perfect health. Deuteronomy 34:7, "And Moses was an hundred and twenty years old when he died: his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated."

That spirit of humility enabled God to work mightily in him. That power was the result of his 'Attitude of Humility', believing just what God said and meeting and enduring everything that came to him without murmuring and complaining.

The great work that God did for him, can also be done for us today. God is no respecter of persons and what He has done for one, He can do for all. For anyone who will take that same 'Attitude of Humility', because we are under the Blood of the real Passover Lamb of God, Jesus Christ Himself.



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