

## I. HUMBLE BEFORE GOD

*He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:8)*

- A. Everyone who had an encounter with the holy, majestic, awesome God in the Scriptures is humbled before Him.
- B. Those who are humble before God are humble before the Word of God. When we read the Bible, our response should be one of reverence, faith, hunger for revelation, and readiness to obey (Phil. 2:8).  
*...This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word (Isaiah 66:2 - NIV)*
- C. Humility in every area of life begins with a proper view of God. You cannot be humble in relation to other people until you know the majesty of God. John Murray (Humility) Humility is: “the displacement of self by the enthronement of God. Where God is all, self is nothing.” Simply, humility is “being fully occupied with God.”

## II. HUMBLE IN RELATION TO PEOPLE (PHIL. 2:1-4)

- A. The only way we will be united as one as Jesus prayed (John 17) is if we all have humble hearts. If there are many visions: I want to do this, we need to do this, then there is division.  
*Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind (NIV: humility) let each esteem others better than himself. <sup>4</sup> Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others (Phil. 2:3-4)*
- B. We need to remember that we are all creation. We are all human, no matter how lofty or lowly.
- C. Think highly of others. Humility is not low-self esteem or a low-self image when someone doesn't know their identity in Christ. We need to understand how God sees us and humble ourselves to accept what Jesus did for us.
- D. Look out not only for my interests but of the interests of others.

## III. JESUS, OUR EXAMPLE OF A HUMBLE HEART (PHIL. 2:5-11)

- A. Jesus humbled Himself continually before the Father's will. This surrender allowed the Father to work through Him whatever He desired. Jesus' humility made salvation and redemption possible for us. Humility makes room for the Father's will. Humility is emptying yourself of yourself and being filled with God.
- B. In Jesus, we see the pattern for the mind that we should have. Jesus is humble. We are being transformed into His image. As we grow spiritually, the more humble and meek we will become.

*Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls (Matt. 11:29)*

- C. Other places of religious rituals without life, legalism without love, left people with a heavy burden. Jesus invites them to come to Him.

*Luke 9:23 Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.*

#### IV. THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF EXALTATION.

- A. Because Jesus humbled Himself, God exalted Him. How do I know that this life of humility is going to work? What if at the end of it turns out that I needed to fight for my rights? Jesus is our assurance that this works (Psa. 147:6; 149:4)

*James 4:10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up. <sup>11</sup> Do not speak evil of one another, brethren. He who speaks evil of a brother and judges his brother, speaks evil of the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge.*

- B. God is the judged. If we humble ourselves before Him, we do not need to take His place as the judge. We squirm and fret because we feel that "This is not fair!" Yet, in humility, we remember that God is on the throne, and the meek shall inherit the earth.

*1 Peter 5:6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time.*

*Matthew 18:4 "Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.*

- C. True humility comes from the heart rather than the law. E.g. some aspects of the Asian culture incorporate humility.

- D. When realize that every good thing we have comes from God, we do not need to boast in ourselves.

*1 Cor. 4:7 For who makes you differ from another? And what do you have that you did not receive? Now if you did indeed receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?*

- E. It is the poor in spirit to whom the Kingdom of God belongs. This is a literal promise. When Jesus returns, we will rule and reign with Him (Rev. 20:6; 22:5; 2 Tim. 2:12). Why will the meek inherit the earth? Because the King, Jesus is humble in heart.

*Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.. <sup>5</sup> Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth (Matt. 5:3, 5)*

*But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble" (James 4:6)*