

"Walking Softly" (Humility)

Summer Electives

Gethsemane Baptist Church, Long Beach, CA

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

Bro. Nelson Jones, Teacher

Pastor Ely Reynolds

Scripture Text(s): 1 Kings 21:1-29 (v. 27-29) [King Ahab]; 2 Chron. 32:22-33 (vs. 24-26,31); [Isa. 38-39] [King Hezekiah]

Main Biblical Principle/Precept to Consider: *It is written of King Ahab that “there was none like unto Ahab, which did sell himself to work wickedness in the sight of the LORD, whom Jezebel his wife stirred up.”* (1 Kings 21:25) However, we see the mercy and grace of God extended to this most wicked man when he humbled himself before the LORD and went softly. *For the LORD said to the prophet Elijah, “Seest thou how Ahab humbleth himself before me? because he humbleth himself before me, I will not bring the evil in his days: but in his son's days will I bring the evil upon his house.”* (1 Kings 21:29) This Scriptural account shows how the LORD God Almighty is drawn toward those who humble themselves. Let's look further into the Bible about what the LORD has said about humility and our desperate need for it.

DEFINITIONS

- a. Arrogance is defined as the act or quality of taking much upon one's self; that species of pride which consists in exorbitant claims of rank, dignity, estimation or power, or which exalts the worth or importance of the person to an undue degree; proud contempt of others; conceitedness; presumption. [Consider also the following Scripture passage(s): Num. 16:1-40 (vs. 3-7 {“...ye take too much upon you...”}).]
- b. Pride is defined as:
 - (1) Inordinate self-esteem; an unreasonable conceit of one's own superiority in talents, beauty, wealth, accomplishments, rank or elevation in office, which manifests itself in lofty airs, distance, reserve, and often in contempt of others. [Consider also the following Scripture passage(s): “For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.” (Rom. 12:3).]
 - (2) Insolence [pride or haughtiness manifested in contemptuous and overbearing treatment of others; petulant contempt; impudence]; rude treatment of others; insolent exultation [exceeding rejoicing]. [Consider also the following Scripture passage(s): “Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, and before honour is humility.” (Prov. 18:12) <AND> “Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.” (Prov. 16:18) <AND> “But the house of Israel will not hearken unto thee; for they will not hearken unto me: for all the house of Israel are impudent and hardhearted. Behold, I have made thy face strong against their faces, and thy forehead strong against their foreheads. As an adamant harder than flint have I made thy forehead: fear them not, neither be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house.” (Ezek. 3:7-9).]
- c. Humility is defined as:
 - (1) In ethics, freedom from pride and arrogance; humbleness of mind; a modest estimate of one's own worth. In theology, humility consists in lowliness of mind; a deep sense of one's own unworthiness in the sight of God, self-abasement, penitence for sin, and submission to the divine will.
 - (2) Act of submission.

HOW DO WE SHOW HUMILITY IN OUR LIVES? [Sermon/Lesson Outline]

- I. Through _____

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- A. Humble yourself unto God and submit yourself unto Him, including _____ from our sin. (**James 4:10; 1 Pet. 5:6; James 4:7-10; Prov. 3:7; Prov. 16:6**)
- B. Falling into _____ [at home/in the family; at church; at work] [*no mutiny/rebellion*]. (**1 Chron. 12:33,38**)
- C. _____ one to another. (**1 Pet. 5:5; Eph. 5:18,21**)
- D. Submitting to God in _____. (**Rom. 10:1-13**)
- A. In dealing with others in:
 - 1. _____. (**2 Tim. 2:24-26**)
 - 2. _____/debate. (**Eph. 4:15a**)
 - 3. Discipline/. (**Matt. 7:1-5**)
 - 4. _____ of a relationship/fellowship. (**Gal. 6:1**)
 - 5. _____ (example of Moses) (**Num. 12:1-3; 2 Tim. 2:24a-b**)
 - a. There's a saying: "Meekness is not weakness, but power under control." Consider what the Lord Jesus Christ said in Matt. 11:28-30, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Consider also Eph. 4:1-3, "I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."
- III. Through _____ towards others (**Gen. 13:5-9** {vs. 8-9})
- IV. Through seeking _____ not conflict [*not forcing things through wrath*] (**James 1:19-20; Prov. 30:33**)
- V. Through the way we _____ to each other [*not accusatory; asking the right questions at the right time; not raising our voices/behaving hostilely; not jumping to conclusions*]
 - A. Not _____ (**Rev. 12:7-11** {v. 10}; **2 Tim. 3:1-5** {vs. 1,3}; **Prov. 30:10; Luke 3:14; Tit. 2:1-5** {vs. 1,3})
 - B. Not jumping to _____, but seeking to understand issue before arriving to a conclusion. (**Prov. 18:13; 1 Tim. 6:3-5; Prov. 11:2**)
 - C. Asking the _____ questions at the right time. (**Prov. 16:21,23-24; Prov. 20:5**)
- VI. Through acknowledgment of our _____ and bad behavior, confessing them and asking forgiveness of others whom we've offended [*no blaming*] (**Prov. 28:13; 1 John 1:9-10; James 5:16a; Luke 17:3-4**)
- VII. Through _____ [*paying back (i.e., through keeping a vow made unto the LORD, praising God for His deliverance, mercy and provision, giving unto Him, etc.)*] unto God for the benefits received from His hand (**2 Chron. 32:22-36**)
- VIII. Through _____ (*being filled with*) in the Holy Spirit, so that an aspect of the fruit of the Holy Spirit – meekness – may be present and working through you (**Gal. 5:16-26**)