

Clothed in Humility



...fasting, self-denial, humility, silence, solitude, and the whole train of monkish virtues; for what reason are they everywhere rejected by men of sense, but because they serve to no manner of purpose; neither advance a man's fortune in the world, nor render him a more valuable member of society; neither qualify him for the entertainment of company, nor increase his power of self-enjoyment? We observe, on the contrary, that they cross all these desirable ends; stupefy the understanding and harden the heart, obscure the fancy and sour the temper. We justly, therefore, transfer them to the opposite column, and place them in the catalogue of vices.

- David Hume



Humility

a person unpretentious in nature and action, deeply authentic, loving God and others above oneself.



Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

1 Peter 5.5-7 (ESV)



1. Humility is more than a virtue, it's a discipline (vs 5a).



Disciplining ourselves in humility opens the door for it to become part of our character.



1. Humility is more than a virtue, it's a discipline (vs 5a).

2. Humility is a conduit to experience God's grace (vs 5b).



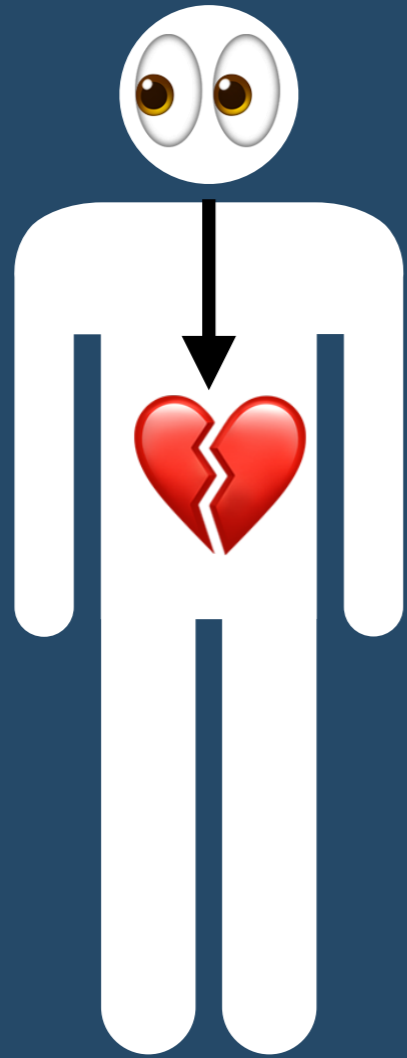
The humble are those who see their heart for what it truly is.



The proud are those who refuse to see their heart
for what it truly is.



The Humble Person



The Proud Person



When we see ourselves for who we truly are,
more flawed than we can imagine and more
loved than we could hope for, grace becomes
real. And humility is realized.



I will presume to speak to my Lord, though I am but dust and ashes. If I esteem myself to be anything more, You confront me, and my sins bear a true witness against me, that I cannot contradict. But if I humble myself and acknowledge my nothingness; if I cast away all my self-esteem and reduce myself to the dust that I really am, then Your grace will come to me, and Your light will enter my heart; thus will the last trace of self-esteem be engulfed in the depth of my own nothingness, and perish for ever. Thus You show me my true self, what I am, what I have been, and what I have become; for I am nothing, and did not know it. By myself I am nothing, and am all weakness. But if for a moment You look on me, I become strong once again, and am filled with new joy. It amazes me how speedily You raise and enfold me with Your grace, who of myself ever fall into the depths.



It is Your love that achieves this, freely guiding and supporting me in my many needs, guarding me from grievous perils, and, as I may truthfully confess, rescuing me from evils without number. And whereas by perverse self-love I had lost myself, now by lovingly seeking You alone, I have found both myself and You; for by that love I have humbled myself to utter nothingness. Dearest Lord, You deal with me above my deserts, and above all I dare hope or pray for.



O Blessed Lord God, I am not worthy of any blessings, yet Your generosity and infinite goodness never cease to benefit even those who are ungrateful, and have wandered far from You. O turn our hearts to you that we may be thankful, humble and devoted; for You are our Salvation, our Power, and our Strength.”

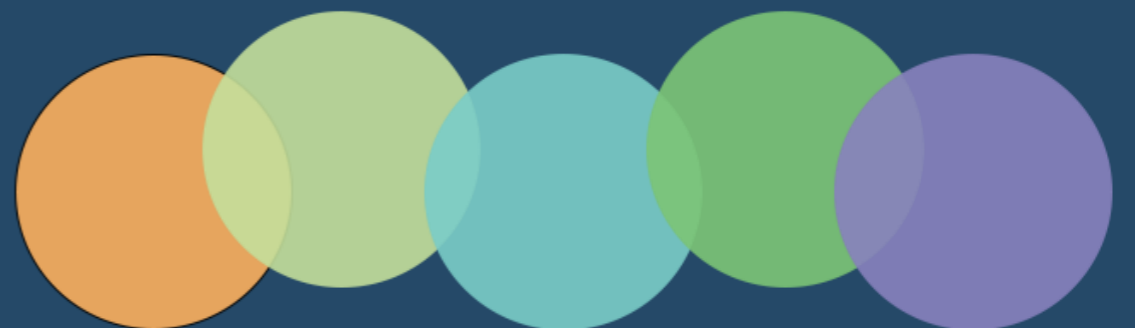
- Thomas À Kempis



1. Humility is more than a virtue, it's a discipline (vs 5a).

2. Humility is a conduit to experience God's grace (vs 5b).

3. Humility is an act of submission (vs 6).



I feel deeply that we don't even realize how much God's people are suffering because they haven't emptied themselves to make room for His power. When people try to serve Jesus together, all too often they find it impossible to be patient with one another, to love one another, to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. People who should have experienced the deep joy of working as partners instead are a hindrance and burden to each other. All for one reason - the lack of the humility that considers self as nothing and rejoices in being the least, and only wants, like Jesus, to be the servant and helper of others, even of the least deserving.

- Andrew Murray



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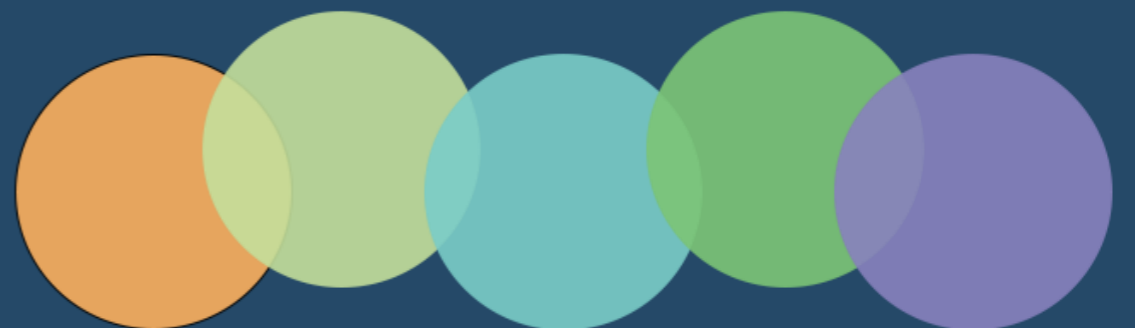
3. Humility is an act of submission (vs 6).

4. Humility is a matter of trust (vs 7).



Humility casts our pride, control, self-interest at the foot of the cross - and trusts in the promises of God.

HE CARES FOR YOU!!!



The humble descend in life in order to ascend.



Your attitude should be the same that Christ Jesus had. Though He was God, He did not demand and cling to His rights as God. He made Himself nothing; He took the humble position of a slave and appeared in human form. And in human form He obediently humbled Himself even further by dying a criminal's death on a cross. Because of this, God raised Him up to the heights of heaven and gave Him a name that is above every other name.

- Philippians. 2:5-9



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