



The Relational Mindset : Humility

Phil 2:5-11 | Abel Mendez | September 29, 2024

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Introduction

A woman said to the preacher, "that was a really good sermon today".

*The preacher, **wanting to be humble** says, "well, the Lord wrote it".*

The woman replied, "it wasn't THAT good".

Today's Sermon can be summed up in one word : HUMILITY

- **What it IS and IS NOT**
- **Why it is necessary.**
- **Where it leads.**

"There is no limit to the amount of good you can do if you don't care who gets the credit." - Ronald Regan

Humility in One Word : OTHERS

The Difference between Saul and David (A Man after God's Heart) Humility & Pride

- *Saul had a Heart After Himself - "Not one is **sorry for me...** you **conspire against me...** you have **no compassion on me...**)*
- *David Had a Heart for Others (Should I save Keliiah)*

"Humility is the precious root of all virtues. It readily bring forth the fruit of obedience, which soon ripens into the flower of charity." (Thomas Kempis)

Image of Tree - A Fruitful Life is Rooted in Humility in Christ

- **Galatians 5:22-23** But the fruit of the Spirit is **love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.** (Notice - Humility is NOT Mentioned, because Humility is the Roots!

Humility is the prerequisite to the salvation life, the spiritual life, the fruitful life

TODAY : PAUL'S CASE FOR HUMILITY



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5 In you relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

"If the Bible was a mountain range, this scripture would be one of the highest peaks." (Tim Keller)

(Map Image) Mindset Mountain (AKA The Humility of Christ)

1. This Peak is the Landmark for the entirety of the letter.
2. Paul's plea is for the church to be **rooted, sustained, growing** and **empowered in His humility** resulting in **blessedness**.

Why Humility Matters : 2 Reasons (Personal Pride & Community Entropy)

1. PRIDE : The Beauty of Philippi was Diversity (Threats 3:1-2, Division 4:1-3)

- **James 4:1-2** What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight.

"The Serpent breathed the poison of his pride, the desire to be as God into the heart of our first parents...And so Jesus came to bring humility back to earth, to make us partakers of it, and by it to save us... His humility is our salvation and His salvation is our humility."- Andrew Murray (Humility)

2. COMMUNITY ENTROPY : Decline (Order-Disorder) of relationships.

1. People, communities even families are prone to drift...
2. Like 2nd law of thermodynamics, it requires energy and effort counters this drift!
3. How much effort did it take to get to church! (House, Marriage, Church)

Read 2:3-4 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit (Pride). Rather, **in humility value others above yourselves**, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

Only way to PEACE with God and Others is

Humility: "not thinking less of yourself, it is thinking of yourself less." (CS Lewis)

"When two humble people are associated together, they will always get along well with each other. But when two proud people are associated together, they will compete with each other and dissensions will inevitable arise." (Thomas Kempis, 1380-1471)

Thus Paul Points us to The Humility of Christ!

So Let's Climb this Mountain and see : His Attributes, His Acts, His Acclaim!

What humility Looks like, what it does and where it leads!



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His Attributes, (What Humility Looks Like)

7 “Who, being in (1) **very nature God**, did **not consider equality with God something to be (2) used to his own advantage**; rather, he (3) **made himself nothing** but taking **the very nature of a (4) servant**, being made in (5) **human likeness.**”

1. God - “Very Nature God” - (Morphe) Nature, Essence, Shape

- Our Word Morph : take a substance and mold or shape into something. (**Think Legos**)
- **John 1:1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...7 **The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.**

Images : Skee-tum Fi-day / Pretzel - JESUS IS GOD (Mens Study)

2 : Selfless - “Used to Own Advantage” - (No Perks)

- It is not uncommon in a business to get perks - Employee Discounts etc. (Surf Industry)
- Jesus chose not to use his perks!
- **Matthew 26:53** (Jesus to Peter) Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels?
- Jesus had God perks, and he did not use them to his advantage!

3 : Surrendered - “made himself nothing” - (Kenoō) - Emptied Himself

- Its not a matter of giving up all divine power (Storms, Miracles, Healings)
- Jesus became a “nobody” -
- KJV “Made himself of no reputation” One who is disgraced/dishonored.
- Even been lied about, mistreated, disgraced and dishonored? So has Jesus.

4 : Servant - “Very Nature a Servant” - (Doulos) - Bondservant

The Law of the Bondservant

- “One who is subservient to, and entirely at the disposal of, his master; a slave.”
- Roman Word : usually referred to one who was held in a permanent position of servitude.
- **Hebrew Word (Ebed)** : Mosaic Law allowed an indentured servant to become a bondservant voluntarily
- **Exodus 21:6** He shall take him to the door or the doorpost and pierce his ear with an awl. Then he will be his servant for life.
- All these things point to Jesus the Servant Willingly Pierced because of love and for our freedom.

5 : Human - “Made in Human Likeness” (homoioōma)

- “In similitude, resemblance and likeness, the infinite becomes finite...”
- **Hebrews 4:15** - “For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.”

Recap : What Humility Looks Like in Christ...

7 “Who, being in (1) **very nature God**, did **not consider equality with God something to be (2) used to his own advantage**; rather, he (3) **made himself nothing** but taking **the very nature of a (4) servant**, being made in (5) **human likeness.**”



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His Acts (What Humility Does)

*8 And being found in the appearance a a man **he humbled himself** becoming **obedient to death - even the death of a cross!***

"When God created the universe, it was with the one object of making the creature partaker of his perfection and blessedness..." (Andrew Murray)

- Because of Pride Humanity was separated.
- Through Humility the Humanity can be Redeemed.
- Love is more than words, love is sacrifice.

IMAGE POWER OF SACRIFICIAL LOVE | MOVING THE HUMAN HEART

Sacrificial love is the Greatest Love of all, It is the heart of the Gospel, and it is the narrative that moves the human heart...

- It's Anna's act of true love willing to be killed frozen for her sister Elsa.
- It's Captain America willingly Crashing a Plane to save New York.
- It's Gandalf dying in order to save others in the Fellowship of the Ring.

The Acts of Christ...

*8 And being found in the appearance a a man **he (1) humbled himself** becoming **(2) obedient to death - even the (3) death of a cross!***

1: Humbled = Lowest Rank: - (*tapeinoō*) *make self of lowest rank.*

- *Ranked below others who are honoured or rewarded...*
- Like an episode of "Undercover Boss" ... Jesus makes himself of lowest rank.

2 : Obedient = Humiliation (*hypēkoos*) *to give ear, attentively, submission.*

- **Luke 22:42** "Father, if it's your will, take this cup of suffering away from me. However, not my will but your will must be done."

3: Jesus died to Self : Death of a Cross!

- From sweating blood in the garden, to flogging, and a crown of thorns, nails driven, suffocation and death by cardiac arrest - The worst form of death ever invented.
- Matt 16:24 Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

The Humility Mindset - Willingness to Sacrifice for Others... Examples...

- It's the parent that sacrifices sleep to comfort a child.
- Is the adult child willing to care for their elderly parent or ill family member. (Mom)
- It's the single parent working long to provide for their family.
- It's act of quietly listening to another's problems for the sake of their well being.
- It's the act of volunteering at local shelter, or non-profit to benefit those in need.
- It's giving up a daily trip to a coffee shop to free up funds to help a local partner.
- It's denying yourself you own desires in order to provide for the needs of someone else.
- It's the endurance through daily frustrations, choosing peace rather than retaliation.



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His Acclaim (Where Humility Leads)

GLORY!

9 Therefore **God (1) exalted him to the highest place and gave him the (2) name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the (3) glory of God the Father.**

O the Glory of the Humility of Christ! His Exaltation, His Name, His Praise!

1 . Exaltation - Highest Rank... (He made himself low raised High)

- (hyperypsoō) - be elevated above others, raise to the highest position (rank)
- Christ make himself low and now he is exalted and will be exalted forever!

2. Name - Highest Esteem... (He who was dishonored, raised to greatest Honor)

- People of Honor have names honored, people of dishonor have names dishonored...
- Jesus the ultimate example of humility, now has a name that is revered, honored and celebrated.
- Every knee bows - meaning - All humanity, past, present and future, all spiritual beings above the earth and below... Jesus reigns supreme.

3. Glory - (Doxa) Dignity, Highest Praise...

- To Bestowing on the Son the Highest place in the Universe. (Jr. High Bestowings)

SLIDE COMPARISON : RANK, ESTEEM, PRAISE (RECAP)

Where does Humility Lead? It Leads to Glory!

“When God created the universe, it was with the one object of making the creature partaker of his perfection and blessedness...” (Andrew Murray)

We are ALL Glory Seekers | “Look Mom!” “Watch this!”

Spoiler Alert : Jesus loves to share in His Glory!!!!

- **The Beauty of the Gospel - When we Humble ourselves, Jesus will lift us up!**
- **Matthew 23:12** For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.
- He Delights to share in His Glory!6

Romans 8:17-18 - Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also **share in his glory.**

Illustration of the Violin player - the song we play is called humility!



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Conclusion

Where is God calling us into His humility?

- Is he calling you to Live & Forgive | Those who have wronged you, robbed you of dignity?
- Is He calling you to Sacrifice & Serve | To Put others needs in front of your own?
- Is He calling you to Submit & Surrender | To a Trial in life the Empowerment of the Spirit of God?

Call to Faith for the first time?

- Is he calling you to Believe & Receive | The Good news of Jesus into your life?

Embrace the Humility of Christ!

1. **Believe it and Receive it!**
 2. **Live and Forgive Others as He has Forgiven you!**
 3. **Sacrifice & Serve Others, From Harvest Party to Youth, Local/Global Partners**
 4. **Submit & Surrender, Be Empowered in the Spirit, the Mind of Christ!**
- **James 4:10** Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.
 - “Just as water ever seeks and fills the lowest place, so the moment God finds you abased and empty, His glory and power flow in.” (Andrew Murray, 1828-1917)

Remember : We are Not Alone in this Endeavor - God has given us His Spirit!

- **1 Corinthians 2:16** - “Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

Final Reminder : Lets Gather to Celebrate Baptisms in Piazza!