

Humility Part 1

“1 If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, 2 Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. 3 Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. 4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. 5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (Philippians 2:1-11 KJV)

You may ask people this question: ‘What they want to be?’ And many they will answer you and you will get different answers, like ‘I want to be a doctor, an engineer, a teacher, a pilot, etc.’ Or you may hear the following answers, ‘I want to be rich, famous, powerful, etc.’ But hardly you will hear this answer, ‘I want to be humble!’ The Word of God tells us the following, ***“Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults.” (Psalm 19:12 KJV)*** Very rarely we are aware of our pride and discern the bad effects of it in our lives and in the lives of other people around us. If you desire to be something good, then just remember it is God who will make you and lift you up. But God will give His grace and favor to the humble, ***“But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.” (James 4:6 KJV)*** So if you want to be something then remember to humble down before God and He will exalt you in His perfect time, ***“6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:” (1 Peter 5:6 KJV)***

In the above chosen Scripture from the book of Philippians Paul was challenging the church members of Philippi if they are united with Christ and having the Holy Spirit, then they ought to be Christ like minded. ***“2 Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.” (Philippians 2:2 KJV)*** To take the attitude of Christ and behave and decide like Him then you ought to apply the same with your relationship with other people around you and as the following:

1. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit: “3 Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory;” (Philippians 2:3 KJV) Selfish ambition and doing your own is a sign of pride in your life. You want to go high and high because you consider yourself is something and this is vain conceit. Many people they dream to do and achieve big things, but these very things are not what God had planned for them. Therefore God will not be with them and assist them in their doing because what they are planning to do is motivated mainly with their pride and nothing to do with God’s love and what God had ordained for them to do and to be. ***God shall not be with you as you do your own will just to feed your pride.***

2. In humility value others above yourselves: “but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.” (Philippians 2:3 KJV) Those who have pride they always think of themselves higher than others. The point here is not to put down yourself, but on what bases you consider yourself higher than others? Check yourself and see if your stand being better than others based on valuable points? If you are better in following God and doing His will then work it out and dedicate your life to help others to walk in God’s ways.

3. Be willing to associate with people of low position: “16 Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.” (Romans 12:16 KJV) Christ being God, the Creator, He was willing to leave His place in Heaven and came down to earth to live and associate with us who are in position lower than Him, ***“6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:” (Philippians 2:6-7 KJV);*** * this is Christ did to leave for us an example that we need to follow and do the same with our fellow human who had less things than what we have and who are less in position than what we are. * We are called to be a blessing to others, and especially to those who are less than us, and it mean much when we do all what we can in order to contribute to their needs. Those who have pride you see them keen to associate with people who are rich, famous and influential, but those who are humble you see them associate and willing to associate with poor, weak and under privileged people.

4. Not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others: “4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.” (Philippians 2:4 KJV); humble people are not selfish nor think about themselves only, but they are interested to help others and work it out that they will receive their rights. ***Don’t think about yourself only. Before you do anything think about the effect of what you are doing on other if it has bad effects on them, and the more if it is against the Word of God.***

5. Humble down and Do not show off: Christ is God, but while He was on earth did not consider equality with God something to be used for His advantage. ***“7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:” (Philippians 2:7 KJV)*** People who boast of what they are and what they have they are not humble people. According to the Word of God, God’s love or charity does not boast and it is not to be proud, ***“4 Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up.” (1 Corinthians 13:4 KJV)*** Christ made Himself nothing. * The same for you don’t try to make for yourself a prestige and high position. Only do your part in a perfect way and the rest is for God to reward you and lift you up in due time. Humble down! Christ humbled Himself, ***“8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.” (Philippians 2:8 KJV)*** He did not wait for God to humble Him, but He humbled Himself. Sometime people they know that they need to behave and they know what God wants them to be and to do. But they test the patience of God until God would come and humble them through hardships and trials. ***Therefore, now humble down and repent from all your sins and don’t wait upon God to come and humble you because that would be a very painful time for you.***

6. Be obedient to God command: Christ was obedient to God the Father and He did God’s will in full, that even He was willing to die the most painful death the death on the cross, ***“8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death,***

even the death of the cross.” (Philippians 2:8 KJV) Be willing to obey God and go through the narrow gate and the narrow way that God had ordained for you to pass through.

7. Be willing to serve and to be God’s servant: “7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:” (Philippians 2:7 KJV) Christ made Himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant. A sign of humility is willingness to serve and willingness to start from lower position and small ministry. Christ when He came on earth He did not act as a king but as a servant. He was able to do that because He was willing to put aside all His Heavenly nature and privileges in order to fulfill the will of God and to serve Him in the way He ought to be. People who are not willing to give up their pride and ambition they will not be able to get jobs of low position, and will not be able to serve God’s purpose because they are not humble. In the same way if you keep holding your pride and not willing to humble and give up your selfish ambition, then you will not be able to cooperate with God and got low profile jobs or low profile style of life. Even you might not able to serve God because you don’t want to start with a small ministry. In addition, how to serve God and your attitude in ministry can show also if you are humble or not. Let us read the following passage from the book of Isaiah,

“1 Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. 2 He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street. 3 A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth. 4 He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law.” (Isaiah 42:1-4 KJV) This Scripture also quoted in the book of Matthew and written as in the following: “18 Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased: I will put my spirit upon him, and he shall shew judgment to the Gentiles. 19 He shall not strive, nor cry; neither shall any man hear his voice in the streets. 20 A bruised reed shall he not break, and smoking flax shall he not quench, till he send forth judgment unto victory. 21 And in his name shall the Gentiles trust.” (Matthew 12:18-21 KJV)

God is telling here, *“Behold my servant,”* not somebody else servant but God’s servant. God is longing to find His servant; to have His own servant, a person who had humbled himself in the hands of God and surrender his life and will to Him and started to serve Him. God’s servant is faithful and available to God. God’s servant is a person who follows God and put Him first in his life. God’s servant is a person who would live his life for God only and stand firm to bring the truth and the Word of God to others. God’s servant is God’s representative to the world. God had sent His Son the Lord Jesus Christ to the world. Christ died on the cross for our sins, He was buried and rose from the dead on the third day to give eternal life to us and to everyone who believe in Him and follow His steps in their lives. God had reconciled the world to Him through Christ Jesus and we who believe on Him we are God’s servant and become God’s ambassador to the world: *“18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. 20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ’s stead, be ye reconciled to God.” (2 Corinthians 5:18-20 KJV)*

From *Isaiah 42:1-4* and *Matthew 12:18-21* we can meditate further. God promised His humble servant with this statement: *“whom I uphold”*: Life is difficult with trials and hardships and God’s servant may falter or fall, but God promised to His humble servant when He said, *“whom I uphold”*, that He shall uphold him and support him. *God shall uphold us and support us and be with us as we humble down and move and go on and serve Him. There will be always troubles and oppositions and things that will try to bend us but God will uphold us and shall not allow us to fall.*

God said about His humble servant the following: *“mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth”; “whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased”*: * God chose His servant who is humble, and so as we humble down and respond to His call He transform us and shape us in the way that He wants us to be. * Trials and hardships in life are the right atmosphere and God’s provision for us to humble down and for our pride and our high nose to be broken, and to be trained and grow in righteousness. As we persevere in trials, humble down obey Him and trust in His unfailing love, and stand firm for Him, we become His delight, His joy and His pleasure.

“I have put my spirit upon him” or *“I will put my spirit upon him”*: God’s anointing is upon His humble servant. The Lord will fill us or refill us with His Holy Spirit and we will bring God’s message to the world, as God ordained, *“he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles”* or *“and he shall shew judgment to the Gentiles”*. *God calls us and anointed us to bring the gospel, the good news of Jesus, to the whole world by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

The passages in *Isaiah 42:1-4* and *Matthew 12:18-21* speak about Jesus as God’s servants. And we who are followers of Jesus we are called to follow His steps in our lives. *Therefore we should humble down and apply the passage in our lives and ministries and live according to what the Word of God says.*

“2 He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street.” (Isaiah 42:2 KJV) “19 He shall not strive, nor cry; neither shall any man hear his voice in the streets.” (Matthew 12:19 KJV) God’s servant will not fight and quarrel. In our service to God we should avoid strife or fight, or raise our voices in the streets: No one needs to hear us quarrelling or fighting. Those who oppose the truth we just need to explain to them and if they will not respond to what we explained to them from the Word of God we just need to move away from them and avoid troubles.

“3 A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench:” (Isaiah 42:3 KJV) “20 A bruised reed shall he not break, and smoking flax shall he not quench,” (Matthew 12:20 KJV): As God’s servant you are not to use your own muscle power to fight. You need to rely on God’s power and not on your own strength.

“he shall bring forth judgment unto truth” or *“till he send forth judgment unto victory.”*: God’s servant is faithful to the Lord and he will remain faithful even in the mid of the adverse conditions until the truth be revealed or fulfilled. God’s servant can persevere in trials and troubles because he is a humble person and had surrendered all his life and will to God. *You ought to humble yourself so you will be able to persevere until you achieve God’s purpose in your life and ministry.*

4 He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law.” (Isaiah 42:1-4 KJV): God’s servant as he humble down he will not easily give up nor be easily fed up, because his eyes are not on worldly things but on God and what He wants him to do. **You should not be easily discouraged, and trials should not upset you.** God’s servant has a target and he will not stop till he achieves it. **Therefore continue to humble down and so you will be able to continue to do God’s work.** **“9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. 10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.” (Galatians 6:9-10 KJV)**

Let us read the following passage about Jesus and learn from Him how to be God’s servant: **“32 And there were also two other, malefactors, led with him to be put to death. 33 And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left. 34 Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots. 35 And the people stood beholding. And the rulers also with them derided him, saying, He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God. 36 And the soldiers also mocked him, coming to him, and offering him vinegar, 37 And saying, If thou be the king of the Jews, save thyself. 38 And a superscription also was written over him in letters of Greek, and Latin, and Hebrew, THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS. 39 And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. 40 But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? 41 And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. 42 And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. 43 And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise.” (Luke 23:32-43 KJV)** You see how Jesus persevered on the cross and humbled Himself even under the death on the cross and therefore He reaped the harvest; one of the thieves repented and gave His life to God. **The following are few of what Jesus did and suffered to teach us how to humble ourselves in the hand of God and persevere in trials:**

- *He carried a heavy cross on His wounded back.*
- *He received nails in His body.*
- *He forgive those who harm Him.*
- *People took away His clothes.*
- *People stood watching Him on the cross and did give Him help.*

*** All or some of the above might happen to us, and that is part of God’s service, but we need to humble down and continue in our service to Him. We need to persevere and the fruit will come. * Therefore resist the devil, persevere in doing God’s will and He will bless you. * The life of Jesus and His mission on earth is a good example to give you more insight, how to humble down, how to submit yourself to God, how to surrender your will to Him and how to allow him to transform you and reshape you.**

My dear and beloved: *** Humble people are teachable and willing to be corrected and taking an advice, “20 Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end.” (Proverbs 19:20 KJV) * Humble people will not raise their voices, quarrels, answer back or fight when they are working or serving. * Humble people will not grumble or complain.**

Neither they will threaten nor use their flesh power to push their own will and agenda. * Humble people rely on God to answer their prayers, His promises to be encouraged and strengthen with, and with the work of the Holy Spirit in their lives to achieve things for them. * God want to bless you and the purpose of this message is to work it out with God to humble down, check yourself and be willing to accept discipline and correction so that God’s blessings will sure flow in your life and in your ministry and service unto God. Let us pray

My prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins and rose again from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word that taught me about humility and showed me my sins that I need to repent from and the way that you wants me to live my life for you and how to serve you. Lord thank you for all the corrections, the rebukes and the admonishments that we received in this message.*

Now come to God and confess and renounce all your sins, Confess and renounce your pride arrogance and being self-righteous. Confess and renounce your selfish ambition, doing your own will and your own plan. Confess and renounce your non willingness to associate with people of low position, the poor and the weak. Confess and renounce your boasting and showing off. Confess and renounce your selfishness and your non concern about the interest of others. Confess and renounce your rudeness, your quarrels and fights and your reliance on the work of the flesh to push on your life. Confess and renounce your lack of patience and self-control. Confess and renounce your non willingness to serve God and suffer for Him. Confess your non willingness to help others and stand with them in their troubles. Confess and renounce your lack of reading the Bible and your lack of prayers. Lord forgive me, I repent of the following sins _____ .

Lord I repent from the sin of pride that ruining my life. Lord take full control over my life and cultivates in me the fruit of the Holy Spirit, love, joy, peace, gentleness, kindness, faith, humility, long-suffering, patience and self-control, and the attitude and the character of Jesus in my life. Lord take from me the works of the flesh, change my character and attitude and make me the person that you want me to be. Lord continue to correct me and show me the areas that I need to be corrected. Lord use trials and circumstances to discipline me and direct me into your path. Lord I commit myself into your hand, mold me, reshape me, and make me your servant that you delight with. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.

Lord thank you for my Brothers and Sisters, who humbled down before you and repented of all their pride and had committed themselves to live the style of life that you want them to have. Lord uphold them with your grace and use them to serve you. Lord help them in their struggles and ministries and give them patience and perseverance until they will accomplish your will in their lives. Lord solve their problems and provide their needs so they will continue to serve you, and be good example to others to follow you.

Lord bless us as your church and uphold us with your grace and mercy so that we will continue to serve you. Lord we humble ourselves before you and we are willing to follow your ways in our lives and ministries. Lord refill us once again with the Holy Spirit and give us the spiritual gifts that we need in our lives to go on and serve you, to evangelize, to reach new people with the gospel of Jesus and to make new disciples, and train new workers to plant new Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord we pray for more people to be water baptized and receive the Holy Spirit baptism. Lord prepare us for your coming to be ready to

go with you when you come. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God.' Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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