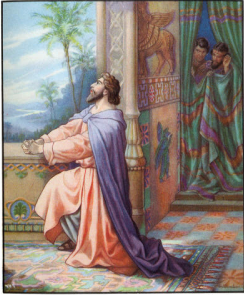


Be Humble



Daniel 9:4-7 HCSB I prayed to the LORD my God and confessed: Ah, Lord--the great and awe-inspiring God who keeps His gracious covenant with those who love Him and keep His commandments-- **5** we have sinned, done wrong, acted wickedly, rebelled, and turned away from Your commandments and ordinances. **6** We have not listened to Your servants the prophets, who spoke in Your name to our kings, leaders, fathers, and all the people of the land. **7** Lord, righteousness belongs to You, but this day public shame belongs to us: the men of Judah, the residents of Jerusalem, and all Israel--those who are near and those who

are far, in all the countries where You have dispersed them because of the disloyalty they have shown toward You.

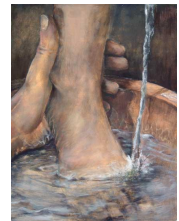
- **1 Peter 5:5-7 HCSB** Likewise, you younger men, be subject to the elders. And all of you clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because **God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.** **6** Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that He may exalt you in due time, **7** casting all your care upon Him, because He cares about you.

I. The link between humility and unity

- a. Mutual humility prepares us to serve one another. (1 Peter 5:5)
- b. Humility is called for in every believer.
- c. Humility is the essence of what it means to be a Christian and to live the Christian life.

II. The link between humility and God's resources.

- a. Humility is the door to God's grace.
- b. God resists the proud
- c. Tower of Babel



- **Genesis 11:1-9 HCSB** At one time the whole earth had the same language and vocabulary. **2** As people migrated from the east, they found a valley in the land of Shinar and settled there. **3** They said to each other, "Come, let us make oven-fired bricks." They had brick for stone and asphalt for mortar. **4** And they said, "Come, let us build

ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the sky. Let us make a name for ourselves; otherwise, we will be scattered over the face of the whole earth." **5** Then the LORD came down to look over the city and the tower that the men were building. **6** The LORD said, "If, as one people all having the same language, they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. **7** Come, let Us go down there and confuse their language so that they will not understand one another's speech." **8** So the LORD scattered them from there over the face of the whole earth, and they stopped building the city. **9** Therefore its name is called Babylon, for there the LORD confused the language of the whole earth, and from there the LORD scattered them over the face of the whole earth.

d. Nebuchadnezzar



- **Daniel 4:29-37 HCSB** At the end of 12 months, as he was walking on the roof of the royal palace in Babylon,

30 the king exclaimed, "Is this not Babylon the Great that I have built by my vast power to be a royal residence and to display my majestic glory?" 31 While the words were still in the king's mouth, a voice came from heaven: "King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is declared that the kingdom has departed from you. 32 You will be driven away from people to live with the wild animals, and you will feed on grass like cattle for seven periods of time, until you acknowledge that the Most High is ruler over the

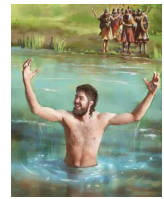


kingdom of men, and He gives it to anyone He wants." 33 At that moment the sentence against Nebuchadnezzar was executed. He was driven away from people. He ate grass like cattle, and his body was drenched with dew from the sky, until his hair grew like eagles' feathers and his nails like birds' claws. 34 But at the end of those days, I,

Nebuchadnezzar, looked up to heaven, and my sanity returned to me. Then I praised the Most High and honored and glorified Him who lives forever: For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom is from generation to generation. 35 All the inhabitants of the earth are counted as nothing, and He does what He wants with the army of heaven and the inhabitants of the earth. There is no one who can hold back His hand or say to Him, "What have You done?" 36 At that time my sanity returned to me, and my majesty and splendor returned to me for the glory of my kingdom. My advisers and my nobles sought me out, I was reestablished over my kingdom, and even more greatness came to me. 37 Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise, exalt, and glorify the King of heaven, because all His works are true and His ways are just. And He is able to humble those who walk in pride.

- e. God gives grace to the humble
- f. Naaman

- **2 Kings 5:10-14 HCSB** Then Elisha sent him a messenger, who said, "Go wash seven times in the Jordan and your flesh will be restored and you will be clean." 11 But Naaman got angry and left, saying, "I was telling myself: He will surely come out, stand and call on the name of Yahweh his God, and will wave his hand over the spot and cure the skin disease. 12 Aren't Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" So he turned and left in a rage. 13 But his servants approached and said to him, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more *should you do it* when he tells you, 'Wash and be clean'?" 14 So Naaman went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, according to the command of the man of God. Then his skin was restored *and became* like the skin of a small boy, and he was clean.



III. The link between humility and God's character

a. Humility protects due to God's sovereignty. (1 Peter 5:6)

- i. Make sure we have relinquished control of our lives to God.
- ii. How do we humble ourselves?
 1. By subjecting ourselves to the church leadership.
 2. By subjecting ourselves to the wisdom of others.
 3. By considering others as better than ourselves.
 4. By acknowledging our need for God.
 5. By submitting to God's timing.
 6. By casting all our anxiety on Him.
 7. By trusting God's heart.

b. Humility is powerful due to the “mighty hand of God.” (1 Peter 5:6)

- i. If we trusted God for our eternal destiny why do we struggle with trusting Him for each day’s needs?

c. Humility exalts due to God’s grace. (1 Peter 5:5-6)

- **Matthew 23:1-12 HCSB** (cp. Luke 14:7-11) Then Jesus spoke to the crowds and to His disciples: “The scribes and the Pharisees are seated in the chair of Moses. 3 Therefore do whatever they tell you and observe *it*. But don't do what they do, because they don't practice what they teach. 4 They tie up heavy loads that are hard to carry and put them on people's shoulders, but they themselves aren't willing to lift a finger to move them. 5 They do everything to be observed by others: They enlarge their phylacteries and lengthen their tassels. 6 They love the place of honor at banquets, the front seats in the synagogues, 7 greetings in the marketplaces, and to be called 'Rabbi' by people. 8 "But as for you, do not be called 'Rabbi,' because you have one Teacher, and you are all brothers. 9 Do not call anyone on earth your father, because you have one Father, who is in heaven. 10 And do not be called masters either, because you have one Master, the Messiah. 11 The greatest among you will be your servant. 12 Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

- i. “in time” has special eschatological significance. It addresses when Christ will be manifested.

- **1 Peter 1:5 HCSB** who are being protected by God's power through faith for a salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.
- **1 Peter 2:12 HCSB** Conduct yourselves honorably among the Gentiles, so that in a case where they speak against you as those who do evil, they may, by observing your good works, glorify God in a day of visitation.

d. Humility protects due to God’s love. (1 Peter 5:7)

- i. He cares. We matter to Him. Contrast this to
- **John 10:13 HCSB** *This happens because he is a hired man and doesn't care about the sheep.*

Conclusion

