

HUMILITY

"He that loves not his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?" - 1 John 4:20.

What a solemn thought, that our love to God will be measured by our everyday interaction with men and the love it displays; and that our love to God will be found to be a delusion, except that its truth is proved in standing the test of daily life with our fellowmen. It is even so with our humility. It is easy to think we humble ourselves before God: humility towards men will be the only sufficient proof that our humility before God is real; that humility has taken up its abode in us; and become our very nature; that we actually, like Christ, have made ourselves of no reputation. When in the presence of God lowliness of heart has become, not a posture we pray to Him, but the very spirit of our life, it will manifest itself in all our bearing towards our brethren. The lesson is one of deep import: the only humility that is really ours is not that which we try to show before God in prayer, but that which we carry with us, and carry out, in our ordinary conduct; the insignificances of daily life are the important tests of eternity, because they prove what really is the spirit that possesses us. It is in our most unguarded moments that we really show and see what we are. To know the humble man, to know how the humble man behaves, you must follow him in the common course of daily life.

Is this not what Jesus taught? It was when the disciples disputed who should be greatest; when He saw how the Pharisees loved the chief place at feasts and the chief seats in the synagogues; when He had given them the example of washing their feet, -that He taught His lessons of humility. Humility before God is nothing if not proved in humility before men.

Excerpt from the book, *Humility* by Andrew Murray, Chapter 6

HUMILITY IN THE LIFE OF JESUS

"I am in the midst of you as he that serveth." Luke 22: 27.

In the Gospel of John we have the inner life of our Lord laid open to us. Jesus speaks frequently of His relation to the Father, of the motives by which He is guided, of His consciousness of the power and spirit in which He acts. Though the word humble does not occur, we shall nowhere in Scripture see so clearly wherein His humility consisted. We have already said that this grace is in truth nothing but that simple consent of the creature to let God be all, in virtue of which it surrenders itself to His working alone. In Jesus we shall see how both as the Son of God in heaven, and as man upon earth, He took the place of entire subordination, and gave God the honor and the glory which is due to Him- And what He taught so often was made true to Himself: "He that humbleth him: shall be exalted." As it is written, "He humbled Himself, therefore God highly exalted Him."

Listen to the words in which our Lord speaks of His relation to the Father, and how unceasingly He uses the words not, and nothing, of Himself. The not I, in which Paul expresses his relation to Christ, is the very spirit of what Christ says of His relation the Father.

"The Son can do nothing of Himself" (John 5: 19).

"I can of My own self do nothing; My judgment is just, because I seek not Mine own will" (John 5: 30).

"I receive not glory from men" (John 5: 41).

"I am come not to do Mine own will" (John 6:38).

"My teaching is not Mine" (John 7:16)

"I am not come of Myself" (John 7:28)

"I do nothing of Myself" (John 8:28)

"I have not come of Myself, but He sent Me" (John 8: 42).

"I seek not Mine own glory" (John 8:50)

"The words that I say, I speak not from Myself" (John 14: 10).

"The word which ye hear is not Mine" (John 14: 24).

Excerpts from the book, *Humility* by Andrew Murray, Chapter 3

"Whoever then humbles himself as this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." **Matthew 18:4**

"Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled; and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted." **Matthew 23:12**

"You hear, O Lord, the desire of the afflicted; you encourage them, and you listen to their cry." **Psalms 10:17**

"When you are cast down, you will speak with confidence, and the humble person He will save." **Job 22:29**

"It is better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly than to divide the spoil with the proud." **Proverbs 16:19**

"He mocks proud mockers but gives grace to the humble." **Proverbs 3:34 (NIV)**

"But He gives us greater grace. Therefore it says, "God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble." **James 4:6**

"For He who requires blood remembers them; He does not forget the cry of the afflicted." **Psalms 9:12**

"The reward of humility and the fear of the Lord are riches honor and life." **Proverbs 22:4**

"The fear of the Lord is the instruction for wisdom, and before honor comes humility." **Proverbs 15:33**

"A man's pride will bring him low, but a humble spirit will obtain honor." **Proverbs 29:23**

"Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time." **1 Peter 5:6**