

CHRIST HUMBLD HIMSELF

Lakeview Baptist Church

5/31/2020

Philippians 2:1-11 So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, 2 complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. 3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. 5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Introduction

To grasp the importance of this portion of the letter, it is a shame that the chapters were broken here. I believe this passage would make more sense if this section was kept with chapter 1, verses 27-30.

EXTRAORDINARY HUMILITY

General thought would say that the “King of Kings” would not be found in the servant of the Father.

Jesus gave us the perfect example of extraordinary humility.

What is humility? The Greek word *tapeinos* means to be base, cast down, humble and of low degree, lowly. Jesus declared that He fulfilled this role:

Matthew 11:28-30 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

- Humility is so *blasé*.
- Humility is not in the key point in any leadership book I have read.
- Humility is against the very nature of sinful man.
- How will one rise to the top with a humble spirit?

And yet, I can think of no better example of humility than that of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

OTHERS-CENTRIC

At the very core, humility is “others-centered.”

The entire life of Jesus was centered on others

Before the feeding of the five-thousand, Jesus saw the crowd and showed “others centric.”

Matthew 14:14 When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

When Jesus approached Jerusalem

Matthew 23:37 37 “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!

Even on the most horrific day in the life of Jesus where His shame was put on display for the world to see, Jesus focused on others. When Jesus was on the cross

Luke 23:34 And Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”

SERVICE-CENTERED

a. The entire life of Jesus was of serving

Matthew 20:25-28 But Jesus called them to him and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

In the upper room

John 13:3-5 3 Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

OBEDIENCE-FOCUSED

The entire life of Jesus was focused on being obedient to the Father

John 5:19 So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise.

In the Garden

Luke 22:42 saying, “Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.”

Conclusion

How do we reconcile Jesus as humility when Revelation defines Him as:

Revelation 1:12-18 Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest.

The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters.

In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

*When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, “**Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.**”*

What area of your life do you need to practice humility?