

Humility - the wellspring of virtue!

Humility is a beautiful thing! Here is the fountain from whence flows _____! Here is the river in which runs the precious water of life! Humility! Here is the robe that _____ the dark stains of pride! Here is the _____ which took off the head of Goliath! Humility! Here is the _____ which is thrown down out of the tower of Heaven onto the head of sin! Here is the _____ that called Jesus to the cross! Humility! Oh Christian that we would long for it!

Philippians 2:5-8 - 5 Have this _____ in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, although He existed in the form of God, did not _____ equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but _____ Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He _____ Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Humility is that good _____ before God which affords the Christian every good virtue. It is a _____, a _____ *of oneself* before God and therefore a proper estimation of all things. Without it you will have not _____ virtue, for God will remain _____ to your haughty arrogant heart!

Luke 18:9 - And He also told this parable to certain ones who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and viewed others with contempt –

Here Jesus is going to teach “*certain ones*” a lesson about “*trusting in _____, that they were _____,*” AND “*_____ others with _____.*” Now obviously this is going to be corrective teaching, He is speaking to denounce the sins of self-_____ and self-_____.

Luke 18:10 - "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee, and the other a tax-gatherer –

Two men. Here the Master uses a _____ of two men, two different kinds of men. One He calls a “*Pharisee*” and the other He calls a “*tax-gatherer.*” In the eyes of those He spoke to, a righteous man and a _____, or so they thought. But Jesus will now expose the _____ in their hearts.

Luke 18:11 - "The Pharisee stood and was praying thus to himself, 'God, I thank Thee that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax-gatherer. -

His words reveal the heart of _____ for others around him, which shows his estimation of others, it is *self-*_____. He has lifted up his heart against his fellowman. He has spoken of what in his mind is his righteous _____ from the outward sins which he names, yet in his dark heart reigns the vile sins of self-righteous _____ and arrogance and contempt! Indeed he is white clean tomb on the outside, but inside he is full of dead men’s bones!

Oh brothers, let us never be guilty of _____ such as these....may God grant us grace to war against the kind of pride which seeks to exalt _____ above others.....but rather let us esteem _____ more _____ than ourselves, truly, deep down in our hearts let us think of others as better than ourselves.....

Luke 18:12 - 'I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.' –

Now here it is not just what he doesn't do, but his great swelling _____ of righteous acts which he has conveniently _____ for God, since you realize, surely, God has _____ and needs to be reminded!

This man's _____ is lifted up in the face of God, his _____ is one of arrogance and exalts itself with a mountain of pride! See here in the Pharisee, the little tiny worm of a _____ man says to the High and Lofty, _____ King of the Universe, look at me God and all _____ great attainments!

13 "But the tax-gatherer, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, the sinner!'" –

“standing some _____ away,” The tax-gatherer did not think himself _____ to approach the temple, that holy place where _____ dwells. No rather he stood far off, he feared God and revered God's _____ and sought not to defile it with his own presence. He has a right estimation of himself as Solomon speaks of in.....

Ecclesiastes 5:1-2 - 5:1 Guard your _____ as you go to the house of God, and draw near to _____ rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools; for they do not know they are doing evil. 2 Do not be _____ in _____ or impulsive in thought to bring up a matter in the presence of God. For God is in _____ and you are on the _____; therefore let your words be few. NAS –

Jesus continues.... *“was even unwilling to _____ up his eyes to heaven,”* See now the *disposition* of the publican, he is _____ of his guilt....he knows he is not worthy to even gaze upon the loveliness of the face of God. Consider what _____ is in his heart for his sins and what _____ lives there for God that he won't even lift his eyes toward heaven. This is the _____ of the penitent!

Hear these words..... *“but was beating his breast”* This man has a genuine bitter _____ in his heart for his sins. This is a sign of _____ in the heart.....this then is an open _____ of sin and an open confession of lowliness, of _____ humility, an outward act of contrition and brokenness.....where is this posture in the church of today?

14 "I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself shall be humbled, but he who humbles himself shall be exalted." –

1 Peter 5:5-6 - 5 You younger men, likewise, be subject to your elders; and all of you, _____ yourselves with _____ toward one another, for God is _____ to the proud, but gives grace to the humble. 6 _____ yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, NASB