

PREPARED TO LIVE IN VICTORY: THE IMPORTANCE OF HUMILITY

Houses of Light Church • June 3 y 4, 2023 • Pastor Netz Gómez

1 Pet. 5:5

"Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

I. INTRODUCCIÓN

- A. This text leads us to the question: how important is humility among young people? First Peter spoke to the elders or leaders to do their work with the right motivations, not out of obligation, not for material gain or dominating those in their charge and then he says "**Likewise, you who are younger**"
- B. This word "**Likewise**" is very important because if we see what these pastors are doing, it is serving the church with good spirits, with a sincere heart, being an example. Leaders are called to give up the kind of self-exalting attitude, especially the one that says "**not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock.**" (1 Pet. 5:3).
- C. Which means that leaders are called to be humble by being subject to the needs of their local church, putting themselves at the level of those who serve and then "**Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders**" and to confirm this Peter says: "**Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility**" so the **submission of the young is an expression of humility.**
- D. The younger ones must submit and be humble as are the leaders by not dominating them. Peter reaffirms this by saying, "**Cover yourselves with humility.**" Which means that both of you are encouraged to demonstrate Christ-like qualities of heart especially in our relationship with one another.
- E. "**clothe yourselves with humility**" Clothing is one of the ways in which all kinds of differentiations between us can be noticed: if you are rich or poor, the boss, the employee; the educated or the uneducated. In every culture, clothing, even if you don't intend it, expresses something of your achievements and what Pedro wants is that the uniform of all be humility.
- F. **Humility is very important;** When we see a mature church, the prevailing mentality is made up of people covered in humility because we all come from different backgrounds and cultures, we speak differently and think differently, but what characterizes us must be humility and a very important reason to be humble is what which says immediately: "**God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble**"
- G. **So you must fear that God will oppose you and you must desire the grace of God.** That fear of God kills pride and produces a desire to cultivate humility.
- H. **Why is it that God gives grace to the humble?** Grace is not something we earn, rather it is given to us freely, but here he says that you must be humble

to receive grace, is this a contradiction of what grace is? In reality humility is the void on which God pours out his grace and we can see it in the same letter:

1 Pet. 4:11 " whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen."

- I. When you serve you do it according to the power that God gives so that God may be glorified, so humility wants God to be glorified therefore it depends on the strength of God which comes to us as grace. So being humble is not a way to deserve grace; it is a way of saying: I cannot live without grace. Humility is the soil where faith grows and faith is what receives grace.

- J. **It is the humble who receive what God has for them.** The rebels sooner or later lose everything. This was what Mary sang inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Lk. 1:51-53 "He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; 52 he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; 53 he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty."

- K. Young people are at great risk if they do not cultivate humility they can not only be deceived but also lose everything that comes from the Kingdom of God.

Matt. 5:3-5 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. 5 "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."

- L. **"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble"** There can be nothing more catastrophic than the Almighty God being against you. God has the power to both exalt and humble based on His love and His righteousness.

Psalms 75:6-7 "For not from the east or from the west and not from the wilderness comes lifting up, 7 but it is God who executes judgment, putting down one and lifting up another."

Lk. 18:14 "[Jesus said:] I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

II. GOD HATES PRIDE

1 Pet. 5:6-7 "Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, 7 casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you."

- A. **Why will God oppose the proud?** If we are not humble we do not place ourselves under the mighty hand of God rather we raise our own power together with or against the hand of God. The proud man does not want to be under the hand of God, he thinks that he himself has a powerful hand. **The**

first reason God hates our pride is because he opposes and dishonors his power.

- B. If we do not humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God we are arrogant and conceited and we will not be exalted because **only the humble are exalted in due time**. The ultimate example of this is Christ:

Phil. 2:5-11 *"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."*

- C. Some of the evidences of humility that we see in this verse would be:

1. Don't think too much of yourself: Jesus *"did not regard equality with God as something to cling to."*
2. Do not cling to your ideas or position, that is, submit to God and the authorities set by Him:

Rom. 13:2 *"Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment."*

3. Become someone who serves.

Lc. 22:26 *"But not so with you. Rather, let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves."*

4. Be obedient: Obedience is a tangible demonstration of humility.

- D. The second reason why God hates pride is because sooner or later it destroys people and does not allow them to be exalted by God. The proud will not be exalted but ruined. Humility is going to be exalted in the end and if pride replaces humility it will not be exalted but destroyed.

- E. We humble ourselves by casting all our anxieties on Him which is an expression of humility. Humility says: I can't handle this, I need the Lord to carry this load. Pride says: I can do it myself; I don't need God; I don't want to look weak or incapable. **The third reason why God hates arrogance is because it ruins people's peace. When we dwell on our anxiety we can be overwhelmed by worry. We may seem strong for a while but eventually anxiety destroys body and soul.**

- F. So humble yourself by admitting that you can't carry your anxieties alone and cast them on Him so that you can experience how beautifully this verse says *"God cares for you."* **The fourth reason why God hates arrogance is because he deprives us of the sweetest experience of God's care. He is**

powerful, He wants us to be under his powerful hand by being humble and what we find is a hand of infinite care.

- G. Everyone can oppose and we can suffer all kinds of fiery tests but if we are humble and cast all our anxiety on Him and trust Him; He takes care of us. We must unite with God and hate all forms of arrogance.

III. REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- 1. According to this teaching, why is humility among young people so important?**
- 2. According to this teaching, what are the four dangers of pride?**
- 3. Describe three aspects of your life in which you need to be more humble**
- 4. How do you think you can grow in humility?**

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. The Introduction to the House of Prayer Course (intro to NHOP) starts tomorrow June 5 at 7:00 pm, you can register at the table outside or at www.nhop.la**
- 2. 'B-Courageous' Men's Conference this Saturday June 10 from 8:00 a.m.-3:30pm. The donation includes food. Please register online or at the table outside**
- 3. Affirming your Steps in English will have an intensive this summer. It will start Monday June 12 at 4:00 p.m. for 8 weeks. For more information and to register you can go to the outside table after the service.**
- 4. Vacation Bible School begins July 10-14. We need volunteers to support the children's ministry. Please pick up your application at the information center or the children's office.**