### ~HUMILITY (1127)

[Hebrew, `a-nah', Greek, ta-pei-no-phro-sy'ne, meaning, make low the mind]

- ·· Pleases God
- " Provides Right Guidance
- .. Aids One In Time Of Adversity
- · · A Quality Of God
- " Jesus Christ's Humility
- ·· Christians Must Cultivate Humility
- ·· Works For Peace
- ·· Essential For Unity In The Congregation
- ·· False Humility
- Freedom from pride or arrogance, lowliness of mind. It is not weakness but a state of mind that is pleasing to Yehowah.
- In the Hebrew Scriptures, humility is drawn from a root word, 'a-nah' meaning, be afflicted, be humbled, be oppressed.
- Words drawn from this root are variously translated, humility, meekness, affliction, and so forth.
- Two other Hebrew verbs involving humility are *ka-na* ' literally, subdue oneself and *sha-phel*' literally, be or become low.
- In the Christian Greek Scriptures the Greek word *ta-pei-no-phro-sy'ne* is translated, humility and lowliness of mind. It is drawn from the words *ta-pei-no'o*, make low, and *phren*, the mind.
- A person can achieve a state of humility by reasoning on his relationship to God and to his fellowmen, as outlined in the Bible, and then practicing the principles learned.
- A Hebrew word, *hith-rap-pes'*, translated humble yourself, means, literally, stamp yourself down. It well expresses the action described by the wise writer of Proverbs.
- My son, if you have gone surety for your fellowman, if you have given your handshake even to the stranger. (Proverbs 6:1)
- If you have been ensnared by the sayings of your mouth, if you have been caught by the sayings of your mouth. (Proverbs 6:2)

- Take this action then, my son, and deliver yourself, for you have come into the palm of your fellowman. Go humble yourself and storm your fellowman with importunities. (Proverbs 6:3)
- Do not give any sleep to your eyes, nor any slumber to your beaming eyes. (Proverbs 6:4)
- Deliver yourself like a gazelle from the hand and like a bird from the hand of the birdcatcher. (Proverbs 6:5)
- In other words, throw away your pride, acknowledge your mistake, set matters straight, and seek forgiveness. Jesus admonished that a person humble himself before God like a child and that, instead of trying to be prominent, he minister to or serve his brothers.
- Therefore, whoever will humble himself like this young child is the one that is the greatest in the kingdom of the heavens. (Matthew 18:4)
- Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted. (Matthew 23:12)
- Or, a person may learn humility by being brought low, humbled by experience. Yehowah told Israel that he humbled them by causing them to walk 40 years in the wilderness in order to put them to the test so as to know what was in their heart and to make them know that not by bread alone does man live but by every expression of Yehowah's mouth does man live.
- And you must remember all the way that Yehowah your God made you walk these forty years in the wilderness, in order to humble you, to put you to the test so as to know what was in your heart, as to whether you would keep his commandments or not. (Deuteronomy 8:2)
- So he humbled you and let you go hungry and fed you with the manna, which neither you had known nor your fathers had known, in order to make you know that not by bread alone does man live but by every expression of Yehowah's mouth does man live. (Deuteronomy 8:3)
- Many of the Israelites no doubt profited from this severe experience and gained humility from it.

- Yet I, for my part, proceeded to walk in opposition to them, and I had to bring them into the land of their enemies. Perhaps at that time their uncircumcised heart will be humbled, and at that time they will pay off their error. (Leviticus 26:41)
- And my people upon whom my name has been called humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn back from their bad ways, then I myself shall hear from the heavens and forgive their sin, and I shall heal their land. (2 Chronicles 7:14)
- At that the princes of Israel and the king humbled themselves and said; Yehowah is righteous. (2 Chronicles 12:6)
- And when Yehowah saw that they had humbled themselves, the word of Yehowah came to Shemaiah, saying; They have humbled themselves. I shall not bring them to ruin, and in a little while I shall certainly give them an escape, and my rage will not pour forth upon Jerusalem by the hand of Shishak. (2 Chronicles 12:7)
- If a person or a nation refuses to become humble or to accept humbling discipline, such will suffer humiliation in due time.
- Anyone shunning discipline is rejecting his own soul, but the one listening to reproof is acquiring heart. (Proverbs 15:32)
- The fear of Yehowah is a discipline toward wisdom, and before glory there is **humility**. (**Proverbs 15:33**)
- The haughty eyes of earthling man must become low, and the loftiness of men must bow down, and Yehowah alone must be put on high in that day. (Isaiah 2:11)
- And earthling man will bow down, and man will become low, and even the eyes of the high ones will become low. (Isaiah 5:15)

#### ·· Pleases God

- Such ones show that they are not trusting or boasting in themselves but are looking to him and want to do his will. As the inspired Christian writers James and Peter say;
- However, the undeserved kindness which he gives is greater. Hence it says; God opposes the haughty ones, but he gives undeserved kindness to the humble ones. (James 4:6)
- In like manner, you younger men, be in subjection to the older men. But all of you gird yourselves with lowliness of mind toward one another, because God opposes the haughty ones, but he gives undeserved kindness to the humble ones. (1 Peter 5:5)
- Even those who have in the past practiced very bad things, if they truly humble themselves before Yehowah and beseech him for mercy, will be heard by him. By promoting false worship in the land, King Manasseh of Judah had seduced the inhabitants of Judah and Jerusalem to do worse than the nations that Yehowah had annihilated from before the sons of Israel.
- Yet, after Yehowah had let him go into captivity to the king of Assyria, Manasseh kept humbling himself greatly because of the God of his forefathers.
- And he kept praying to Him, so that He let himself be entreated by him and He heard his request for favor and restored him to Jerusalem to his kingship, and Manasseh came to know that Yehowah is the true God. Thus Manasseh learned humility.
- And Manasseh kept seducing Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to do worse than the nations that Yehowah had annihilated from before the sons of Israel. (2 Chronicles 33:9)
- And as soon as it caused him distress, he softened the face of Yehowah his God and kept humbling himself greatly because of the God of his forefathers. (2 Chronicles 33:12)
- And he kept praying to Him, so that He let himself be entreated by him and He heard his request for favor and restored him to Jerusalem to his kingship, and Manasseh came to know that Yehowah is the true God. (2 Chronicles 33:13)
- And it came about that as soon as Ahab heard these words, he proceeded to rip his garments apart and to put sackcloth upon

his flesh, and he went on a fast and kept lying down in sackcloth and walking despondently. (1 Kings 21:27)

- And Yehowah's word came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying; (1 Kings 21:28)
- Have you seen how Ahab has humbled himself on my account? For the reason that he has humbled himself because of me, I shall not bring the calamity in his own days. In the days of his son I shall bring the calamity upon his house. (1 Kings 21:29)

#### " Provides Right Guidance

- One who humbles himself before God can expect to have God's guidance. Ezra had a heavy responsibility in leading back from Babylon to Jerusalem more than 1,500 men, besides the priests, the Nethinim, and the women and children.
- Additionally, they carried with them a great amount of gold and silver for beautifying the temple in Jerusalem. They needed protection on the journey, but Ezra did not want to ask the king of Persia for a military escort and thereby show reliance on human might. Besides, he had previously said to the king.
- The hand of our God is over all those seeking him for good. Therefore he proclaimed a fast, so the people would humble themselves before Yehowah. They made request of God, and he listened and provided them with protection from enemy ambushes on the way so that they completed the hazardous trip successfully.
- Now these were the heads of their paternal houses and the genealogical enrollment of those going up with me during the reign of Artaxerxes the king out of Babylon. (Ezra 8:1)
- Of the sons of Phinehas, Gershom. Of the sons of Ithamar, Daniel. Of the sons of David, Hattush. (Ezra 8:2)
- Of the sons of Shecaniah, of the sons of Parosh, Zechariah, and with him there was an enrollment of a hundred and fifty males. (Ezra 8:3)
- Of the sons of Pahath-moab, Elieho-enai the son of Zerahiah, and with him two hundred males. (Ezra 8:4)

- Of the sons of Zattu, Shecaniah the son of Jahaziel, and with him three hundred males. (Ezra 8:5)
- And of the sons of Adin, Ebed the son of Jonathan, and with him fifty males. (Ezra 8:6)
- And of the sons of Elam, Jeshaiah the son of Athaliah, and with him seventy males. (Ezra 8:7)
- And of the sons of Shephatiah, Zebadiah the son of Michael, and with him eighty males. (Ezra 8:8)
- Of the sons of Joab, Obadiah the son of Jehiel, and with him two hundred and eighteen males. (Ezra 8:9)
- And of the sons of Bani, Shelomith the son of Josiphiah, and with him a hundred and sixty males. (Ezra 8:10)
- And of the sons of Bebai, Zechariah the son of Bebai, and with him twenty-eight males. (Ezra 8:11)
- And of the sons of Azgad, Johanan the son of Hakkatan, and with him a hundred and ten males. (Ezra 8:12)
- And of the sons of Adonikam, those who were the last, and these were their names, Eliphelet, Jeiel and Shemaiah, and with them sixty males. (Ezra 8:13)
- And of the sons of Bigvai, Uthai and Zabbud, and with them seventy males. (Ezra 8:14)
- Then I proclaimed a fast there at the river Ahava, to humble ourselves before our God, to seek from him the right way for us and for our little ones and for all our goods. (Ezra 8:21)
- For I felt ashamed to ask a military force and horsemen from the king to help us against the enemy in the way, because we had said to the king; The hand of our God is over all those seeking him for good, but his strength and his anger are against all those leaving him. (Ezra 8:22)
- Therefore we fasted and made request of our God concerning this, so that he let himself be entreated by us. (Ezra 8:23)

- I now separated from the chiefs of the priests twelve, namely, Sherebiah, Hashabiah, and with them ten of their brothers. (Ezra 8:24)
- And I proceeded to weigh out to them the silver and the gold and the utensils, the contribution to the house of our God that the king and his counselors and his princes and all the Israelites who were to be found had contributed. (Ezra 8:25)
- Thus I weighed out into their hand six hundred and fifty talents of silver and a hundred silver utensils worth two talents, and gold a hundred talents. (Ezra 8:26)
- And twenty small gold bowls worth a thousand darics and two utensils of good copper, gleaming red, as desirable as gold. (Ezra 8:27)
- Then I said to them; You are something holy to Yehowah, and the utensils are something holy, and the silver and the gold are a voluntary offering to Yehowah the God of your forefathers. (Ezra 8:28)
- Keep awake and be on guard until you weigh them out before the chiefs of the priests and the Levites and the princes of the fathers of Israel in Jerusalem, in the dining halls of the house of Yehowah. (Ezra 8:29)
- And the priests and the Levites received the weight of the silver and the gold and the utensils, to bring them to Jerusalem to the house of our God. (Ezra 8:30)
- Finally we pulled away from the river Ahava on the twelfth day of the first month to go to Jerusalem, and the very hand of our God proved to be over us, so that he delivered us out of the palm of the enemy and the ambush by the way. (Ezra 8:31)
- So we came to Jerusalem and dwelt there three days. (Ezra 8:32)
- The prophet Daniel, in Babylonian exile, was highly favored by God's sending an angel to him with a vision, because Daniel humbled himself before God in his search for guidance and understanding.
- And he went on to say to me; Do not be afraid, O Daniel, for from the first day that you gave your heart to understanding and

humbling yourself before your God your words have been heard, and I myself have come because of your words. (Daniel 10:12)

- Humility will guide a person in the proper path and will bring him into glory, for it is God who exalts one and puts down another.
- For God is the judge. This one he abases, and that one he exalts. (Psalms 75:7)
- Before a crash the heart of a man is lofty, and before glory there is humility.
- Before a crash the heart of a man is lofty, and before glory there is humility. (Proverbs 18:12)
- The result of humility and the fear of Yehowah is riches and glory and life. (Proverbs 22:4)
- So, one seeking glory by haughtiness will fail, as did King Uzziah of Judah, who became presumptuous and unlawfully usurped priestly duties.
- However, as soon as he was strong, his heart became haughty even to the point of causing ruin, so that he acted unfaithfully against Yehowah his God and came into the temple of Yehowah to burn incense upon the altar of incense. (2 Chronicles 26:16)
- Immediately Azariah the priest and with him priests of Yehowah, eighty valiant men, came in after him. (2 Chronicles 26:17)
- Then they stood up against Uzziah the king and said to him; It is not your business, O Uzziah, to burn incense to Yehowah, but it is the business of the priests the sons of Aaron, the ones sanctified, to burn incense. Go out from the sanctuary, for you have acted unfaithfully, and it is not for any glory to you on the part of Yehowah God. (2 Chronicles 26:18)
- But Uzziah became enraged while in his hand there was a censer for burning incense, and, during his rage against the priests, leprosy itself flashed up in his forehead before the priests in the house of Yehowah beside the altar of incense. (2 Chronicles 26:19)
- When Azariah the chief priest and all the priests turned toward

him, why, there he was stricken with leprosy in his forehead! So they excitedly began to remove him from there, and he himself also hastened to go out, because Yehowah had smitten him. (2 Chronicles 26:20)

- And Uzziah the king continued to be a leper until the day of his death, and he kept dwelling in a house exempt from duties, as a leper, for he had been severed from the house of Yehowah, while Jotham his son was over the king's house, judging the people of the land. (2 Chronicles 26:21)
- Lack of humility caused Uzziah to be misguided, to his downfall.
- .. Aids One In Time Of Adversity
- Humility can aid one greatly in meeting the challenge of adversity. If calamity comes, humility enables a person to hold up and endure as well as to continue his service to God.
- King David underwent many adversities. He was hunted as an outlaw by King Saul. But he never complained against God or exalted himself above Yehowah's anointed one.
- However, David said to Abishai; Do not bring him to ruin, for who is it that has thrust his hand out against the anointed of Yehowah and has remained innocent? (1 Samuel 26:9)
- It is unthinkable, on my part, from Yehowah's standpoint, to thrust my hand out against the anointed of Yehowah! So now take, please, the spear that is at his head and the water jug, and let us get on our way. (1 Samuel 26:11)
- And Yehowah it is who will repay to each one his own righteousness and his own faithfulness, in that Yehowah today gave you into my hand, and I was unwilling to thrust my hand out against the anointed of Yehowah. (1 Samuel 26:23)
- When he sinned against Yehowah in the affair with Bath-sheba and was most severely reproved by God's prophet Nathan, he humbled himself before God.
- Why did you despise the word of Yehowah by doing what is bad in his eyes? Uriah the Hittite you struck down with the sword, and his wife you took as your wife, and him you killed by the

### sword of the sons of Ammon. (2 Samuel 12:9)

- And now a sword will not depart from your own house to time indefinite, as a consequence of the fact that you despised me so that you took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to become your wife.

  (2 Samuel 12:10)
- This is what Yehowah has said; Here I am raising up against you calamity out of your own house, and I will take your wives under your own eyes and give them to your fellowman, and he will certainly lie down with your wives under the eyes of this sun. (2 Samuel 12:11)
- Whereas you yourself acted in secret, I, for my part, shall do this thing in front of all Israel and in front of the sun. (2 Samuel 12:12)
- David now said to Nathan; I have sinned against Yehowah. At this Nathan said to David; Yehowah, in turn, does let your sin pass by. You will not die. (2 Samuel 12:13)
- Notwithstanding this, because you have unquestionably treated Yehowah with disrespect by this thing, also the son himself, just born to you, will positively die. (2 Samuel 12:14)
- Then Nathan went to his own house. And Yehowah proceeded to deal a blow to the child that the wife of Uriah had borne to David so that it took sick. (2 Samuel 12:15)
- And David began to seek the true God in behalf of the boy, and David went on a strict fast and came in and spent the night and lay down on the earth. (2 Samuel 12:16)
- So the older men of his house stood up over him to raise him up from the earth, but he did not consent and did not take bread in company with them. (2 Samuel 12:17)
- And it came about on the seventh day that the child gradually died. And the servants of David were afraid to tell him that the child had died, for they said; Look! While the child continued alive we did speak to him, and he did not listen to our voice, so how can we say to him; The child has died? Then he will certainly do something bad. (2 Samuel 12:18)

- When David got to see that his servants were whispering together, David began to discern that the child had died. So David said to his servants; Has the child died? To this they said; He has died. (2 Samuel 12:19)
- Then David got up from the earth and washed and rubbed himself with oil and changed his mantles and came to the house of Yehowah and prostrated himself, after which he came into his own house and asked, and they promptly set bread before him and he began to eat. (2 Samuel 12:20)
- Consequently his servants said to him; What does this thing mean that you have done? For the sake of the child while alive you fasted and kept weeping, and just as soon as the child had died you got up and began to eat bread. (2 Samuel 12:21)
- To this he said; While the child was yet alive I did fast and I kept weeping, because I said to myself; Who is there knowing whether Yehowah may show me favor, and the child will certainly live? (2 Samuel 12:22)
- Now that he has died, why is it I am fasting? Am I able to bring him back again? I am going to him, but, as for him, he will not return to me. (2 Samuel 12:23)
- · Afterward, when a certain Benjamite named Shimei began publicly calling down evil on David, and David's officer Abishai wanted to kill the man for so disrespecting the king, David displayed humility. He replied to Abishai.
- Here my own son, who has come forth out of my own inward parts, is looking for my soul, and how much more now a Benjaminite! Perhaps Yehowah will see with his eye, and Yehowah will actually restore to me goodness instead of his malediction this day.
- And King David came as far as Bahurim, and, look! Coming out from there was a man of the family of Saul's house, and his name was Shimei, the son of Gera, coming out and calling down evil as he came out. (2 Samuel 16:5)
- And he began throwing stones at David and at all the servants of King David, and all the people and all the mighty men were at his right and at his left. (2 Samuel 16:6)

- And this is what Shimei said as he called down evil; Get out, get out, you bloodguilty man and good-for-nothing man! (2 Samuel 16:7)
- Yehowah has brought back upon you all the bloodguilt for the house of Saul in place of whom you have ruled as king, and Yehowah gives the kingship into the hand of Absalom your son. And here you are in your calamity, because you are a bloodguilty man! (2 Samuel 16:8)
- Finally Abishai the son of Zeruiah said to the king; Why should this dead dog call down evil upon my lord the king? Let me go over, please, and take off his head. (2 Samuel 16:9)
- But the king said; What do I have to do with you men, you sons of Zeruiah? Thus let him call down evil, because Yehowah himself has said to him, Call down evil upon David! So who should say; Why did you do that way? (2 Samuel 16:10)
- And David went on to say to Abishai and all his servants; Here my own son, who has come forth out of my own inward parts, is looking for my soul, and how much more now a Benjaminite! Let him alone that he may call down evil, for Yehowah has said so to him! (2 Samuel 16:11)
- Perhaps Yehowah will see with his eye, and Yehowah will actually restore to me goodness instead of his malediction this day. (2 Samuel 16:12)
- With that David and his men kept going on in the road, while Shimei was walking on the side of the mountain, walking abreast of him that he might call down evil, and he kept throwing stones while abreast of him, and he threw a lot of dust. (2 Samuel 16:13)
- Later, David numbered the people, contrary to Yehowah's will. The account reads.
- And again the anger of Yehowah came to be hot against Israel, when one incited David against them, saying; Go, take a count of Israel and Judah. (2 Samuel 24:1)
- And David's heart began to beat him after he had so numbered the people. Consequently David said to Yehowah; I have sinned

very much in what I have done. And now, Yehowah, let your servants error pass by, please, for I have acted very foolishly. (2 Samuel 24:10)

· Although he suffered punishment, David was not removed as king, his humility played a large part in his restoration to Yehowah's favor.

### " A Quality Of God

- Yehowah God himself includes humility among his qualities. This is not because there is any inferiority on his part or any submission to others. Rather, he shows humility in exercising mercy and great compassion upon lowly sinners.
- That he deals with sinners at all and has provided his Son as a sacrifice for mankind's sins is an expression of his humility. Yehowah God has permitted evil for some 6,000 years and let mankind be brought forth, even though their father Adam had sinned.
- Through undeserved kindness, mercy was thereby shown to Adam's offspring, giving them opportunity for everlasting life.
- For the creation was subjected to futility, not by its own will but through him that subjected it, on the basis of hope (Romans 8:20)
- That the creation itself also will be set free from enslavement to corruption and have the glorious freedom of the children of God. (Romans 8:21)
- · All of this displays, along with other fine qualities of God, his humility.
- King David saw and appreciated this quality in God's undeserved kindness to him. After Yehowah had delivered him out of the hand of all his enemies, he sang.
- And you will give me your shield of salvation, and it is your humility that makes me great. (2 Samuel 22:36)
- And you will give me your shield of salvation, and your own right hand will sustain me, and your own humility will make me great. (Psalms 18:35)

- Though in his great dignity he sits in his exalted place in the highest heavens, it can nevertheless be said of Yehowah.
- Who is like Yehowah our God, him who is making his dwelling on high? (Psalms 113:5)
- He is condescending to look on heaven and earth. (Psalms 113:6)
- Raising up the lowly one from the very dust, he exalts the poor one from the ashpit itself. (Psalms 113:7)
- To make him sit with nobles, with the nobles of his people. (Psalms 113:8)

## ... Jesus Christ's Humility

- Jesus Christ, when on earth, set the greatest example of a humble servant of God. On the evening before his death, Jesus girded himself with a towel and washed and dried the feet of each of his 12 apostles, a service customarily performed by menials and slaves.
- So, while the evening meal was going on, the Devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon, to betray him. (John 13:2)
- He, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands and that he came forth from God and was going to God. (John 13:3)
- Got up from the evening meal and laid aside his outer garments. And, taking a towel, he girded himself. (John 13:4)
- After that he put water into a basin and started to wash the feet of the disciples and to dry them off with the towel with which he was girded. (John 13:5)
- When, now, he had washed their feet and had put his outer garments on and laid himself down at the table again, he said to them; Do you know what I have done to you? (John 13:12)
- You address me; Teacher, and, Lord. And you speak rightly, for I am such. (John 13:13)

- Therefore, if I, although Lord and Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash the feet of one another. (John 13:14)
- For I set the pattern for you, that, just as I did to you, you should do also. (John 13:15)
- Most truly I say to you, a slave is not greater than his master, nor is one that is sent forth greater than the one that sent him. (John 13:16)
- If you know these things, happy you are if you do them. (John 13:17)
- He had told his disciples;
- Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted. (Matthew 23:12)
- For everyone that exalts himself will be humbled and he that humbles himself will be exalted. (Luke 14:11)
- The apostle Peter, present that night, remembered Jesus fine example in living up to his words. He later admonished fellow believers:
- In like manner, you younger men, be in subjection to the older men. But all of you gird yourselves with lowliness of mind toward one another, because God opposes the haughty ones, but he gives undeserved kindness to the humble ones. (1 Peter 5:5)
- Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time. (1 Peter 5:6)
- The apostle Paul encourages Christians to have the same mental attitude as Jesus Christ, he points to the high position of the Son of God in his pre-human existence in the heavens with his Father Yehowah, his willingly emptying himself, taking a slaves form, and coming to be in the likeness of men.
- Paul adds;
- Keep this mental attitude in you that was also in Christ Jesus.(Philippians 2:5)

- Who, although he was existing in God's form, gave no consideration to a seizure, namely, that he should be equal to God. (Philippians 2:6)
- No, but he emptied himself and took a slaves form and came to be in the likeness of men. (Philippians 2:7)
- More than that, when he found himself in fashion as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient as far as death, yes, death on a torture stake. (Philippians 2:8)
- For this very reason also God exalted him to a superior position and kindly gave him the name that is above every other name. (Philippians 2:9)
- So that in the name of Jesus every knee should bend of those in heaven and those on earth and those under the ground. (Philippians 2:10)
- And every tongue should openly acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:11)
- More outstandingly, even with such a highly exalted position, when he wields all authority in heaven and on the earth to bring about God's will concerning the earth.
- And Jesus approached and spoke to them, saying; All authority has been given me in heaven and on the earth. (Matthew 28:18)
- Let your kingdom come. Let your will take place, as in heaven, also upon earth. (Matthew 6:10)
- Christ will still have the same humility at the end of his Thousand Year Reign. Thus, the Scriptures tell us:
- But when all things will have been subjected to him, then the Son himself will also subject himself to the One who subjected all things to him, that God may be all things to everyone. (1 Corinthians 15:28)
- Jesus Christ said of himself;
- Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am mildtempered and lowly in heart, and you will find refreshment for

#### your souls. (Matthew 11:29)

- When he presented himself to the people of Jerusalem as their King, he fulfilled the prophecy that said of him; Look! Your king himself comes to you. He is righteous, yes, saved, humble, and riding upon an ass, even upon a full-grown animal the son of a she-ass.
- Be very joyful, O daughter of Zion. Shout in triumph, O daughter of Jerusalem. Look! Your king himself comes to you. He is righteous, yes, saved, humble, and riding upon an ass, even upon a full-grown animal the son of a she-ass. (Zechariah 9:9)
- The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival, on hearing that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. (John 12:12)
- Took the branches of palm trees and went out to meet him. And they began to shout; Save, we pray you! Blessed is he that comes in Yehowah's name, even the king of Israel! (John 12:13)
- But when Jesus had found a young ass, he sat on it, just as it is written: (John 12:14)
- Have no fear, daughter of Zion. Look! Your king is coming, seated upon an ass's colt. (John 12:15)
- These things his disciples took no note of at first, but when Jesus became glorified, then they called to mind that these things were written respecting him and that they did these things to him.

  (John 12:16)
- In his exalted heavenly position when he goes forth against the enemies of God, the command is prophetically given to him:
- And in your splendor go on to success. Ride in the cause of truth and humility and righteousness, and your right hand will instruct you in fear-inspiring things. (Psalms 45:4)
- Therefore, those who have humility can rejoice, even though they may have been crushed and mistreated by the proud and haughty. They can take comfort in the words;
- Seek Yehowah, all you meek ones of the earth, who have practiced His own judicial decision. Seek righteousness, seek meekness. Probably you may be concealed in the day of

### Yehowah's anger. (Zephaniah 2:3)

- Yehowah's words to Israel before the destruction of Jerusalem warned the humble ones and comforted them in declaring that God would, nevertheless, act in their behalf in his due time. He said,
- In that day you will not be ashamed because of all your dealings with which you transgressed against me, for then I shall remove from the midst of you your haughtily exultant ones, and you will never again be haughty in my holy mountain. (Zephaniah 3:11)
- And I shall certainly let remain in the midst of you a people humble and lowly, and they will actually take refuge in the name of Yehowah. (Zephaniah 3:12)
- Humility will actually result in the saving of many, as it is written:
- And the humble people you will save, but your eyes are against the haughty ones, that you may bring them low. (2 Samuel 22:28)
- Thus we have assurance that the King Jesus Christ, who rides in the cause of truth and humility and righteousness, will save his people who humble themselves before him and before his Father, Yehowah.

#### ·· Christians Must Cultivate Humility

- In counseling fellow Christians to put on the personality that is being made new according to the image of the One who created it, the apostle Paul says;
- And clothe yourselves with the new personality, which through accurate knowledge is being made new according to the image of the One who created it. (Colossians 3:10)
- Accordingly, as God's chosen ones, holy and loved, clothe yourselves with the tender affections of compassion, kindness, lowliness of mind, mildness, and long-suffering. (Colossians 3:12)
- Citing the fine example of Christ, he admonishes them;
- Doing nothing out of contentiousness or out of egotism, but with

**lowliness of mind** considering that the others are superior to you. (Philippians 2:3)

- Again he appeals,
- Be minded the same way toward others as to yourselves, do not be minding lofty things, but be led along with the lowly things. Do not become discreet in your own eyes. (Romans 12:16)
- It is in the same vein that Paul tells the Christians in the city of Corinth;
- For, though I am free from all persons, I have made myself the slave to all, that I may gain the most persons. (1 Corinthians 9:19)
- And so to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain Jews, to those under Law I became as under Law, though I myself am not under Law, that I might gain those under Law. (1 Corinthians 9:20)
- To those without Law I became as without Law, although I am not without Law toward God but under Law toward Christ, that I might gain those without Law. (1 Corinthians 9:21)
- To the weak I became weak, that I might gain the weak. I have become all things to people of all sorts, that I might by all means save some. (1 Corinthians 9:22)
- It takes real humility to do this.

#### ·· Works For Peace

- Humility promotes peace. A humble person does not fight his Christian brothers in order to establish his supposed personal rights. The apostle argued that, though he had freedom to do all things, he would do only the things that are upbuilding, and if a brothers conscience was bothered by his personal actions, he would refrain from that practice.
- So, then, let us pursue the things making for peace and the things that are upbuilding to one another. (Romans 14:19)
- Stop tearing down the work of God just for the sake of food.

True, all things are clean, but it is injurious to the man who with an occasion for stumbling eats. (Romans 14:20)

- It is well not to eat flesh or to drink wine or do anything over which your brother stumbles. (Romans 14:21)
- But keep watching that this authority of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to those who are weak. (1 Corinthians 8:9)
- For if anyone should see you, the one having knowledge, reclining at a meal in an idol temple, will not the conscience of that one who is weak be built up to the point of eating foods offered to idols? (1 Corinthians 8:10)
- Really, by your knowledge, the man that is weak is being ruined, your brother for whose sake Christ died. (1 Corinthians 8:11)
- But when you people thus sin against your brothers and wound their conscience that is weak, you are sinning against Christ. (1 Corinthians 8:12)
- Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat flesh at all, that I may not make my brother stumble. (1 Corinthians 8:13)
- All things are lawful, but not all things are advantageous. All things are lawful, but not all things build up. (1 Corinthians 10:23)
- Let each one keep seeking, not his own advantage, but that of the other person. (1 Corinthians 10:24)
- Everything that is sold in a meat market keep eating, making no inquiry on account of your conscience. (1 Corinthians 10:25)
- For, to Yehowah belong the earth and that which fills it. (1 Corinthians 10:26)
- If anyone of the unbelievers invites you and you wish to go, proceed to eat everything that is set before you, making no inquiry on account of your conscience. (1 Corinthians 10:27)
- But if anyone should say to you; This is something offered in

- sacrifice. Do not eat on account of the one that disclosed it, and on account of conscience. (1 Corinthians 10:28)
- Conscience, I say, not your own, but that of the other person.
   For why should it be that my freedom is judged by another person's conscience? (1 Corinthians 10:29)
- If I am partaking with thanks, why am I to be spoken of abusively over that for which I give thanks? (1 Corinthians 10:30)
- Therefore, whether you are eating or drinking or doing anything else, do all things for God's glory. (1 Corinthians 10:31)
- Keep from becoming causes for stumbling to Jews as well as Greeks and to the congregation of God. (1 Corinthians 10:32)
- Even as I am pleasing all people in all things, not seeking my own advantage but that of the many, in order, that they might get saved. (1 Corinthians 10:33)
- It also requires humility to keep the peace by putting into practice Jesus counsel to forgive others their sins against us.
- And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. (Matthew 6:12)
- And do not bring us into temptation, but deliver us from the wicked one. (Matthew 6:13)
- For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. (Matthew 6:14)
- Whereas if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. (Matthew 6:15)
- Then Peter came up and said to him; Lord, how many times is my brother to sin against me and am I to forgive him? Up to seven times? (Matthew 18:21)
- Jesus said to him; I say to you, not, up to seven times, but, up to seventy-seven times. (Matthew 18:22)

- And when one person offends another, it tests his humility to obey the command to go to the other person and admit the wrong, asking forgiveness.
- If, then, you are bringing your gift to the altar and you there remember that your brother has something against you. (Matthew 5:23)
- Leave your gift there in front of the altar, and go away, first make your peace with your brother, and then, when you have come back, offer up your gift. (Matthew 5:24)
- Or when the offended person approaches him, only love coupled with humility will prompt one to acknowledge the wrong and act immediately to set matters straight.
- Moreover, if your brother commits a sin, go lay bare his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. (Matthew 18:15)
- Pay attention to yourselves. If your brother commits a sin give him a rebuke, and if he repents forgive him. (Luke 17:3)
- And Yehowah went on to speak to Moses, saying; (Leviticus 6:1)
- Yehowah and does deceive his associate about something in his charge or a deposit in hand or a robbery or he does defraud his associate. (Leviticus 6:2)
- Or he does find something lost and is actually deceptive about it and does swear falsely over any of all the things that the man might do to sin by them. (Leviticus 6:3)
- Then it must occur that in case he sins and indeed becomes guilty, he must return the robbed thing which he has robbed or the extorted thing which he has taken by fraud or the thing in his charge which was put in his charge or the thing lost that he has found. (Leviticus 6:4)
- Or anything at all over which he might swear falsely, and he must make compensation for it in its full amount, and he will add to it a fifth of it. To the one whose it is he will give it on the day his guilt is proved. (Leviticus 6:5)

- And as his guilt offering he will bring to Yehowah a sound ram from the flock according to the estimated value, for a guilt offering, to the priest. (Leviticus 6:6)
- And the priest must make an atonement for him before Yehowah, and so it must be forgiven him regarding any of all the things that he might do resulting in guiltiness by it. (Leviticus 6:7)
- But the results such humility brings in the way of peace to the individual and to the organization far outweigh the feeling of humiliation, also, his humble action further develops and strengthens in the individual the fine quality of humility.

### • Essential For Unity In The Congregation

- Humility will help the Christian to be content with the things that he has, and it will help him to maintain joy and balance. The interdependency of the Christian congregation, as illustrated by the apostle at (1 Corinthians Chapter 12), is based on obedience, humility, and submissiveness to God's organizational arrangement.
- Therefore, while the male members of the congregation are told; If any man is reaching out for an office of overseer, he is desirous of a fine work, they are also told not to be ambitiously seeking a position of responsibility, for example, as teachers of the congregation, for these shall receive heavier judgment.
- That statement is faithful. If any man is reaching out for an office of overseer, he is desirous of a fine work. (1 Timothy 3:1)
- Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, knowing that we shall receive heavier judgment. (James 3:1)
- All, men and women, should be submissive to those taking the lead and should wait on Yehowah for any appointments or assignments to responsibility, for it is from him that promotion comes.
- For neither from the east nor from the west, nor from the south is there an exalting. (Psalms 75:6)
- For God is the judge. This one he abases, and that one he exalts. (Psalms 75:7)

- As some of the Levite sons of Korah said;
- For a day in your courtyards is better than a thousand elsewhere. I have chosen to stand at the threshold in the house of my God rather than to move around in the tents of wickedness. (Psalms 84:10)
- Such true humility takes time to develop. The Scriptures, in setting forth the qualifications for one who would be appointed to the office of overseer, specify that a newly converted man should not be appointed, for fear that he might get puffed up with pride and fall into the judgment passed upon the Devil.
- Not a newly converted man, for fear that he might get puffed up with pride and fall into the judgment passed upon the Devil. (1 Timothy 3:6)

# ·· False Humility

- Christians are warned against letting their humility be only on the surface. Anyone who takes delight in a mock humility can become puffed up without proper cause by his fleshly frame of mind. A person who is truly humble will not think that the Kingdom of God or entering into it has to do with what one eats or drinks or what one refrains from eating or drinking.
- The Bible shows that a person may eat or drink or may refrain from partaking of certain things because he feels he should, from a health standpoint or for the sake of conscience.
- Let no man deprive you of the prize who takes delight in a mock humility and a form of worship of the angels, taking his stand on, the things he has seen, puffed up without proper cause by his fleshly frame of mind. (Colossians 2:18)
- Those very things are, indeed, possessed of an appearance of wisdom in a self-imposed form of worship and mock humility, a severe treatment of the body, but they are of no value in combating the satisfying of the flesh. (Colossians 2:23)
- For the kingdom of God does not mean eating and drinking, but means righteousness and peace and joy with Holy Spirit. (Romans 14:17)

- For all those who depend upon works of Law are under a curse, for it is written: Cursed is every one that does not continue in all the things written in the scroll of the Law in order to do them. (Galatians 3:10)
- Moreover, that by Law no one is declared righteous with God is evident, because the righteous one will live by reason of faith. (Galatians 3:11)
- False humility can actually result in developing haughtiness in the individual, for he may tend to think he is righteous on his own merit, or he may feel that he is accomplishing his ends, not realizing that he cannot deceive Yehowah.
- If haughtiness develops, he will in time be humbled in a way that he will not enjoy. He will be brought low, and it may be to his own destruction.
- Before a crash the heart of a man is lofty, and before glory there is humility. (Proverbs 18:12)
- The very haughtiness of earthling man will humble him, but he that is humble in spirit will take hold of glory. (Proverbs 29:23)