

# Foundations Lesson #18

## Pride & Humility

In Matthew 23:12 Jesus said, "For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted." Someone will do the exalting and someone will do the humbling. If we do the exalting, God does the humbling. If we do the humbling, God does the exalting. We get to determine who does which.

### I. definitions

- pride: an attitude which believes that what is important in life is me me me me me
  - Psalm 10:4 / Proverbs 13:10 / Isaiah 16:6
  - We are commanded not to be proud. – Romans 12:16 / I Corinthians 13:4
- humility: an attitude which gratefully acknowledges that I am and have **nothing** other than what God has given me, therefore life is all about **Him**
  - John 3:27 / Deuteronomy 8:17-18
  - We are commanded to be humble. – Ephesians 4:2 / Philippians 2:3 / Colossians 3:12 / Titus 3:1-2 / I Peter 3:8

### II. the outcomes that result from pride and humility

- the outcomes that result from pride
  - a downfall – II Chronicles 26:16 / Proverbs 18:12
  - disgrace – Proverbs 11:2
  - house gets torn down – Proverbs 15:25
  - will be punished – Proverbs 16:5 / Isaiah 10:12
  - destruction – Proverbs 16:18 / Zephaniah 2:9-10
  - gets brought low – Proverbs 29:23 / Isaiah 2:11, 23:9
  - will be humbled – Isaiah 2:12
  - will be ruined – Jeremiah 13:9
  - receives the opposition of God – James 4:6 / I Peter 5:5
- the outcomes that result from humility
  - get saved – II Samuel 22:28 / Psalm 18:27
  - guidance from the LORD – Psalm 25:9
  - get sustained by the LORD – Psalm 147:6
  - get crowned with salvation – Psalm 149:4
  - receive God's grace – Proverbs 3:34 / James 4:6 / I Peter 5:5
  - wisdom – Proverbs 11:2
  - honor – Proverbs 18:12
  - will be the greatest in the kingdom of heaven – Matthew 18:4
  - will be exalted – Matthew 23:12 / Luke 14:11 / Luke 18:14 / I Peter 5:6

### **III. humility modeled in the life of Jesus**

- making himself nothing and coming to earth as a human
  - Philippians 2:5-8b
- acknowledging his complete submission to the Father's will
  - John 5:19, 5:30, 5:41, 6:38, 7:16, 7:28, 8:28, 8:42, 8:50, 14:24
- embracing the identity of a servant
  - Mark 10:42-45 / John 13:3-5, 12-17 / Luke 22:25-27
- laying his life down so that sinful humans could be rescued
  - Matthew 20:28 / Philippians 2:5-11

### **IV. pride as seen in various biblical characters**

- Herod Agrippa – Acts 12:21-23
- Nebuchadnezzar – Daniel 4:1-37 (especially verse 30) / Daniel 5:18-21
- Ananias and Sapphira – Acts 5:1-9
- Jesus' disciples
  - claiming that they would never disown him – Matthew 26:31-35
  - rejoicing that the demons submitted to them – Luke 10:17-20
  - disputing among themselves who was greatest – Luke 22:24-27
- Satan – Isaiah 14:12-15 / Ezekiel 28:17

### **V. some manifestations of pride**

- being easily offended – John 6:60-61
- having a problem with authority – I Peter 2:13
- failing to admit their own wrongdoing – I Samuel 15:20 / Proverbs 26:12 / Psalm 36:2
- an attitude of superiority or boasting – Esther 5:11-12
- leaving God out – Joshua 9:14 / Deuteronomy 8:14 / Psalm 10:4 / Hosea 13:6