

**Spiritual How-to's -
How to Please the Lord
Pride & Humility
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In these video lessons we share brief, bite-sized, Bible basics on how you can please the Lord.

**Intro.- Can you imagine being opposed by the omnipotent, almighty God, creator of the universe? Imagine him opposing you, resisting you, fighting against you...imagine being in the ring with him in the opposite corner.
You stand no chance, do you, do I?**

This is the image for us to begin with today, as we talk about pride & humility.

I. 1 Pet. 5:5-8 says this, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Therefore, humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on Him, for He cares for you.”

A. It is frightening that God would oppose anyone, but we see here he opposes the proud.

1. “opposes” – G498- “antitasso” = to range in battle against, to oppose oneself, to resist
2. Omnipotent God, ranges in battle against the proud

B. Who are the “proud”?

1. “proud” - G5244 – “hyperephanos” = showing oneself above others, overtopping, conspicuous above others, preeminent; haughty.
2. Omnipotent God ranges in battle against the one who lifts himself above others, & forces their own preeminence in overtopping another

C. Having God oppose you, is **the opposite of pleasing Him, so to study pride & rid ourselves of it, would be pleasing to Him.**

D. We see, in fact, that God gives grace/divine influence to the humble****

1. Grace as we learned last week, is the diving influence on the heart & it's reflection in the life
2. “humble” – G5011- “tapeinos” = not rising from the ground, lowly, of low degree, humble; deferring servilely to others

E. V. 8 tells us to **humble ourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you**

1. One who is humble goes under God's mighty hand
2. If we're not humble, we don't go under his hand
3. Humility says, “I need your help”
4. Pride says, “I can do it myself”

F. When you go under the almighty hand of God

1. we give him our anxieties and ask for help
2. He give us his amazing care. He cares for us
3. His care will not be experienced if we don't humble ourselves
4. That is why God opposes the proud
5. They say they don't need His care

II. Pride was what got Lucifer kicked out of heaven. Ezk. 28:14-17; Isa. 14:12-15

A. God made him beautiful, & blameless and he became boastful

B. With the asserting his **5, I will statements**, he refused to come under the almighty hand of God

1. He sought to be higher than God
2. He wanted to usurp the authority that was God's only
3. He sought to be preeminent, above all others and topple God's order

C. Instead **he was brought down** to Sheol (not exalted) and cast to the ground (where we find him crawling on his belly in the garden of Eden)

1. His heart was proud because of his own beauty
2. He liked what he saw in himself, those qualities and characteristics that God had created in him
 - a. He wasn't responsible for his beauty & giftings
 - b. Yet, he took credit & pushed his own self-promotion in heaven
3. His pride corrupted the beautiful and anointed giftings God had put in him
4. His pride caused God to oppose him and range in battle against him
5. He was beautiful until evil pride was found in him

D. Humility always waits for God's timing

1. Humility knows that God will exalt you at the proper time
2. Humility honors God's mighty hand
3. Humility allows us to experience God's wonderful care

III. Our example for humility is Jesus. Phil. 2:3-11

A. Although he was God, that position was **never something that he clung too** or tried to force on others

B. **He emptied himself** of showing himself as better than others

C. **And showed by his life, a life of serving others.** Deferring not to his will but to that of His Father's

1. He even clothed himself like a servant, by taking a towel and bowl
2. He then washed the feet of the disciples Jn. 13:1-20

D. Jesus modeled how to humble yourself under God's mighty hand & God surely exalted him at the proper time

IV. There is one other story about pride & humility to share. Lk. 18:9-14

The Pharisee and the tax collector

A. This is a story that Jesus tells **“to those who trusted in themselves that they were righteous.”** V. 9

PHARISEE

standing alone

prayed- “I’m not like the others...”

I...do this & I... do that

TAX COLLECTOR

standing afar off

wouldn’t look up

beat his breast

God, be merciful to me a sinner

B. Which one was humble? Which one was prideful?

C. Which one did God oppose?

D. Which one came under God’s almighty hand?

E. Which one experienced God’s care?

F. Which one are we told was justified? V. 14

G. This parable closes with this statement –

“For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.” V. 14

V. Closing – I dare say, we each could use a strong dose this tax collector’s humility.

God be merciful to me, a sinner.

A. Ps. 138:6 – For though the Lord is high he regards the lowly, but the haughty he knows from afar

B. Mat. 11:29 – Jesus said, I am meek and lowly & you will find rest for you soul

C. Jer. 9:23 – let not the wise boast in their wisdom... the strong boast in their strength...or the rich boast in their riches

D. Rom. 12:2 ...not to think of himself more highly than he should...

E. Rom. 12:16 – do not be haughty

F. Rom. 11:20 – do not become proud, but fear

G. Pro. 8:13 – I hate pride and arrogance

H. Pro.11:2 – when pride comes then comes disgrace, with humility comes wisdom

I. Pro. 13:10 – where there is strife there is pride

J. Pro. 16:5 – the Lord detests all the proud of heart

K. Pro. 16:18 – pride goes before destruction

L. Jas. 4:6,10- He gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves before the Lord and he will exalt you.

* Pride is so toxic it will repel God, he will oppose the proud. Pride will not yield to God’s ways. It says I got this without you. I don’t need you.

- * But God gives grace to the humble, to the one who comes under his mighty hand for help, who calls out for help and gives God their anxiety.
- * God cares for the humble & takes their anxiety and will in due time exalt them.
- * THAT puts God is your corner, rather than having him oppose you.

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