

## Humility (IV): Jesus as Our Role Model

### I. The Humble Example of Jesus

- ◆ The Lord Jesus, the King of kings, took on flesh, and the first place He touched was a manger, and all the earth was His, but He was so selfless that He chose a stinking and dirty manger, and was wrapped in cloth, not in a mink coat, which is the sign of the Son of God.
- ◆ He had no family, education, background, or expertise to boast of. All Joseph could equip him with was carpentry. He was Jesus of Nazareth, and Nathanael said, *“What good can come out of Nazareth?”* In the Old Testament, Isaiah 9 tells us that there was a great light shining on the coast of Galilee, and it mentions that a future king, the Messiah, would be born there in Bethlehem, but Nazareth was not mentioned. Our King was born in a place that is not famous.
- ◆ What about His life on earth?
- ◆ Isaiah 53:3 *“He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.”*
- ◆ **The mark of Jesus - the Lamb of God, defenseless, nonresistant, unable to attack, not even screaming when slaughtered. Pray for the mark of the Lamb of God to be stamped on us.**
- ◆ The revelation of Jesus Christ to Hyde, for whom Jesus suffered:
  1. The Word became flesh
    - ◆ How humbling it was for this holy Son of God, who is on the throne of glory in heaven, to take on flesh and live with a group of sinners. **A person who is used to living in a clean environment can't stand to be in a place that is even a little dirty. Let alone this Son of God. He was in heaven, such a holy and glorious place, and came to this sinful world**, full of human competition, jealousy, and deceit, no wonder Jesus often left the crowd and went to the mountains to take a breath of fresh air.
  2. Took the image of a slave
    - ◆ In Philippians 2:7, **Jesus often acted like a slave on earth, but in the end He washed the feet of His disciples, even Judas**, who was about to betray Him. Washing the feet was a slave's job in the East, but Jesus humbled Himself and washed every disciple's feet before He went on the cross.

### 3. Jesus became like a dog for us

- ◆ Jesus said to the Canaanite woman, *“It is not good to take the bread of your children and give it to the dogs.”* **He wanted us to understand that the Gentiles were like dogs in the eyes of the Israelites. Jesus Himself became the Savior of the Gentiles, and today we Gentiles can all be heirs and become sons and daughters of God together with the Israelites. Jesus needs to take the place of the dogs, and He is not ashamed to call us brothers,** He is the elder brother, and through Him God will bring many sons into glory.
- ◆ The dogs of the ancient East did not even have a place to live, and the Son of Man did not have a place to rest. The dogs could be punched and kicked in the street at any time, and Jesus was like that on earth: He was abandoned at any time, pushed off a cliff, stoned at any time, and killed at any time.

## II. Jesus Won the Greatest Victory for Us Through Defeat

### 1. The birth of Jesus was a failure

- ◆ This King of kings and Lord of lords was a failure in the eyes of the world, and Herod tried to kill Him at birth.

### 2. Jesus' death was a failure

- ◆ Jesus was crucified with sinners on the cross of shame.

### 3. His life's work is a failure

- ◆ All He did in His life was to train twelve disciples, but all twelve left when He went on the cross.

### 4. How did Jesus win the greatest victory?

- ◆ Jesus won the greatest victory for us through defeat, that is, to deliver us from the poison of pride that Satan entered into the latter days of Adam, that He needed to humble Himself, to submit, to humble Himself all the way down, not only to slaves, to criminals, but to the most humiliating criminals, to the grave, to the deep, so as to win all the victories along the way, to bring the power of the humility of the Son of God into us at Pentecost. As such, He said at the time of His death that He had accomplished His greatest work of redemption, which was to remove the pride in human race, the most abominable sin in the sight of God, and to deliver us from the power of this sin.
- ◆ The book of Revelation says that only this Lamb who was slain is worthy to open the Seven Seals, and no one else is worthy to open the Seven Seals, and John wept with anxiety. **This Lamb is worthy because he was slain.**
- ◆ Do you desire success? There are seminars for how to become successful all

over the world and in the church. The greatest success is when you are willing to be killed.

- ◆ **John the Baptist's life's work was a failure. He was the pioneer of God's Son, but he was killed soon after he started the work. The Son of God's life work was a failure too (in the eyes of man). Brothers and sisters, let us be transformed by the renewal of our mind. What is success in the eyes of God? Do you want to be successful today? Do you want to win over others? Do you want to get ahead? God says that true success, true distinction, is to follow Him on the way of the cross, to be willing to be killed, to die on the cross, this is the most successful person.**

### III. Mercy Triumphs over Judgment

- ◆ Adam ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, and the most obvious symptom of all Adam's descendants is that they often distinguish between right and wrong, yes and no, always arguing, analyzing others, judging others, and treating ourselves like judges. But when the Son of God came to earth, He often rebuked the **Pharisees, who were the most obvious eaters of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil**, and always say according to the law, *"You shall not do this; you shall not do that,"* and the Son of God came to earth to save us from these things. **It's all because pride is rooted in us, so we are always acting as judges.**
- ◆ God said, *"Mercy triumphs over judgment."* The Son of God came and all He showed was mercy. He often rebuked those who thought they were judges. He rebuked the Pharisees the most, but He was often merciful to sinners, and Jesus came to save us from our pride.

### IV. Matthew 21:5, *"Say to the daughter of Zion, Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden."*

- ◆ It is said here that your king comes to you humbly, as it is said in the Old Testament, humbly and peacefully riding on a donkey.
- ◆ It is written in a book that the Mexican donkey is very stubborn. When a small donkey wants to deviate from its own way and is prevented, it begins to betray its master. When this little donkey does not want to go, even if you use a ball of fire to burn underneath its belly, it will at most cross this ball of fire, and it will still not move. Many of us Christians are the same way. When we want to go our own way and someone comes to stop us, we start to betray, "I want this; I will not praise, and I will not apologize," just like this donkey.
- ◆ This king will go into Jerusalem, and will ride this donkey, that is, though I am so stubborn, so incorrigible, and I am not a horse, and I have no talent, and I am so inconspicuous, yet the Lord has chosen us, and He will come to change us, and He

will use us.

- ◆ This King humbled Himself to come to earth, to build the humility from the King of heaven in us, so stubborn as the donkey, whose opposite is meekness. **Jesus was so humble all His life, and how He showed His humility was most obviously in obedience, so humility and obedience cannot be separated.**

## V. Humility and Obedience Are Inseparable

### 1. 1 Peter 5:5-6, *“Clothe yourselves with humility toward one another.”*

- ◆ People who are humble are the most obedient. If you clothe yourselves with humility, you will be able to submit to others, but be careful, read the scripture that speaks to your own age. **It says here that you must humble yourself, and humility is expressed in one’s determination to be obedient,** and a person who feels inferior is the most disobedient, and a person who humbles himself is the most obedient.

### 2. Deuteronomy 31:16-21, 31:27-29

- ◆ This is what God told Moses to say to the people of Israel before they entered the land of Canaan. God said, “before I led them into my promised land, I knew all their thoughts, and I knew they would disobey me and worship idols, and so the evils would come upon them.”

**If we don’t make obedience our habit, our character, we will not be able to bear the promised land in the end.** We are God’s children, and if we don’t have any determination—“Lord, I am determined to obey you in my life”—even if we enter the promised land, we will go into captivity in the end.

- ◆ Sometimes when we are with someone we know very well, we often live in flesh and not enough in the Word of God. God says that wives should submit to their husbands, and young ones to older ones, and unless we are willing to take this seriously, we will lose much of the inheritance God wants to give to us.
- ◆ Sometimes when co-workers are very close, they don’t know how to clothe themselves with humility toward one another. When the host says, “Please sit in the front,” one says no and sits in the back, seeming to be humble. If you submit to the host, God will give you a reward. **God is always on the lookout to give us a reward, but He only gives it to those who are obedient.** You say he is a host, not God, but God will speak to you through the host.
- ◆ God’s people really have to watch out for obedience, otherwise when you keep praying, “Lord! I want the humility of heaven! I want the humility of the Lamb,” you can pray until the Lord comes again but humility never comes down. It is because **to clothe yourselves with humility toward one another is to submit to one another,** and submission is so important!

## VI. God Dwells with Him Who Is of a Contrite and Lowly Spirit

### 1. Isaiah 57:14-15

- ◆ This King of kings and Lord of lords needed to become flesh and live to show us so that we understand what a humble King He is, a King who dwells with those who are of a contrite and lowly spirit. Jesus cannot dwell in the proud.
- ◆ **What is the stumbling block? It is pride. Pride blocks the door of our hearts so that the humble King cannot enter.** So when we do not feel the presence of the Lord, we need to repent. Of course there are times when the Lord is testing us to see if we still believe that the precious God is with me more than any feeling, and that's when you need to have faith. Before you do that, you have to ask the Lord, "Have I acted proudly lately? Pride in my tone of voice?" A proud attitude toward others so that God cannot dwell with me? We ask the Lord to shine on us, and when we repent and bow down, God can come in easily.

### 2. Micah 6:8

- ◆ God tells us, "*O man, what does the LORD require of you?*" **He wants us to walk with our God with a humble heart. A humble person does justice, and loves kindness, so all virtue grows out of humility, and all sin grows out of pride.**

## Humility (IV) Assignment

1. What did the Lord open up to Hyde? Was there a point that particularly touched you?
2. Jesus' life was a failure in the eyes of the world. What did these failures bring about?
3. What is the mark of the Son of God?
4. If "lamb" can be used to describe the humility and obedience of Jesus, what do you think would best describe your life?
5. What are the most obvious signs of Adam's descendants?
6. Are you like a Mexican donkey in any way?
7. Obedience and humility are inseparable. Which of the objects of obedience mentioned in 1 Pet. 5:5-6 are the ones you need to learn to obey in particular?
8. What is the stumbling block mentioned in Isaiah 57:14-15?
9. In Micah 6:8, what does the LORD want from the world?
10. The second time Brother Nee told Minister M.E. Barber about a brother's wrongdoing, Minister M.E. Barber gave him an answer that made him understand one thing for the rest of his life, and what thing was he referring to?
11. Does this message renew or illuminate certain aspects of your thinking?
12. Scripture memorization: Isaiah 57:14-15, Micah 6:8.