

Humility (XIV): Humility Comes from Seeing the Lord

I. How Humility Takes Shape in Us

1. Isaiah 6:1-6, When Isaiah saw the glory of God, he humbled himself

- ♦ Isaiah saw the Lord sitting on a high and lofty throne, with His robe filling the temple. Seraphim were flying around, calling out, *“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!”* When Isaiah saw the Lord on the high throne, he realized his own impurity and cried out, *“Woe is me! I am undone! I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips.”* Often, we hear the Word, and acknowledge our unclean lips, but soon forget and continue in sin.
- ♦ A sister once said, “Many times, I know I need to change, my mind tells me to, but my heart never truly commits to it.” For instance, after hearing a sermon or someone’s testimony, receiving a conviction, we realized our wrongdoings and felt a bit ashamed, but we turned away immediately. This is the constant learning mentioned in the Bible that doesn’t lead to understanding because, each time we hear the Word, it doesn’t transform into prayer. We know in our minds but don’t cry out to God, so we continue in sin. **We truly need to see the glory of the Lord to deeply understand that we are the people with unclean lips.**

2. The Vision of Sister Martha Robinson

- ♦ Sister Robinson saw the Almighty God and His glory, an indescribable majesty and authority. However, she then saw a place distant from God’s glory, separated by a terrifying, impassable distance. In this cold place, there was a speck of dust, utterly insignificant—Sister Robinson herself.

Its disappearance wouldn’t affect the universe, but as she gazed at this picture which is both prophetic and terrifying, she felt ashamed and despaired.

When proud individuals realize their insignificance in the face of God’s greatness and glory, they are plunged into shame and despair.

- ♦ **Suddenly, the scene changed. A vague light, like a small path, appeared between the speck and the great God. As she focused, the Good Shepherd left His throne and glory, approached alone, entered the darkness surrounding the speck. Then God brought the speck gradually ascending towards the heavenly throne. This revelation deeply impacted Sister Robinson, signifying that Jesus’ blood was shed for her. He left the glorious heaven to save her insignificant self, leading her to profound humility.**

This vision, I believe, kept Sister Robinson humble in God’s presence throughout her life, despite receiving all gifts mentioned in 1 Corinthians 12. If we see the Lord, we cannot be proud.

- ♦ We greatly need to see the glory of the Lord, to see my position as just an insignificant speck of dust in the darkness. Then, we no longer have any proud actions or attitudes. We no longer rely on ourselves, and we don't need the approval and praise of others. We stop comparing ourselves to others because we know our position – a sinner who needed God to pay the ultimate price to die for me, guiding me onto the path of light. So, in our entire lives, no matter what significant experiences the Lord grants us, we understand that everything I have is received. If it's all received, what is there to boast about? Even if I have these experiences, I'm just slightly ahead of that cold, dark place. I'm still far from God. **It's easy to mistakenly think we're very spiritual in the presence of the Lord, saying, "Wow! The Holy Spirit has poured over me again! What a great outpouring!" It's just grace coming upon us. We always need to remember that I am just this speck of dust; then, we won't become proud.**
- ♦ We need to clearly understand our position; then, we won't be easily hurt. Knowing our place, we remain low and humble. We won't sit high on a throne, and we won't think of ourselves as someone special. **Therefore, humility comes from seeing God's holiness and glory.**

3. Job's Self-Righteousness

- ♦ The Book of Job describes Job as a man who fears God, is completely righteous, and avoids evil. So, when his three friends kept insisting that he must have been sinful, for he faced such hardships, Job resisted. **The more his friends spoke, the more they stirred up Job himself. He began expressing the self-righteousness that was hidden deep within him.**

When we manifest our "self-righteousness," we tend to feel that God is treating us unjustly, allowing such things to happen to us.

- ♦ Later, the Lord God answered Job from within a whirlwind, saying, *"Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? If you are wise, speak up."* Brothers and sisters, **if we ever feel that we are wise and capable, we should consider that we were not present when God laid the foundations of the earth.**

In Job 40:2, God spoke to Job again, saying, *"Shall a faultfinder contend with the Almighty?"* **Brothers and sisters, as Christians, we really should not say, "Lord, why is it like this? Why are you treating me this way, Lord?" Can you argue with God?**

- ♦ Job responded, *"I am of little account; what shall I answer you? I lay my hand on my mouth."* **When we see God, we become silent; when we don't see God, our mouths are filled with many words, and we are quick to express ourselves.**
- ♦ When God revealed Himself to Job again, Job finally said, *"I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted. 'Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?' Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand."* **Job acknowledged that he previously spoke arrogantly, but he now realized**

he had said what he did not understand.

However, many Christians are often bold in speaking and commenting. Some Christians, upon seeing certain phenomena, quickly label them as the work of, or being possessed by, evil spirits.

When we truly see God, we would realize that we cannot say anything. We don't understand and we don't know. Yet, without seeing God, we often think we know it all. How much we need to see God!

- ♦ **As recorded in the Bible, whether it was Daniel, Isaiah, Job, or John, their facial expressions upon seeing the Lord were pale, and their bodies trembled. Then, they discovered their unworthiness, said, “therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes.” This is a true attitude of humility before the Lord. We greatly need such a humble heart. If our behavior contradicts this, it indicates that we don't truly know God. If, due to recent abundant blessings and gifts from the Lord, we become proud and self-satisfied, we haven't really seen God. These blessings did not make us more in awe of Him or more holy.**

4. Eve and Adam's Pride

- ♦ The reason why Adam and Eve failed was because they no longer relied on God. They liked the word spoken by Satan, “*You will be like God,*” “*You will be as wise as God,*” and as a result, they were driven out of the Garden of Eden. **Their descendants, still in rebellion, built the Tower of Babel, constantly seeking to be high and discerning like God.**
- ♦ Today, many Christians continue to build their own towers of Babel in their workplace, in the world, and even in the church. They desire to become spiritual figures, to have certain gifts, and to be like God. However, God will destroy all of these efforts.

5. Perfectionists are very proud

- ♦ **Mrs. Jeanne Guyon talked about how a genuinely humble person will not be surprised by their failures and shortcomings.** Sinners are inherently flawed and prone to failure. The more such people see their own corruption, poverty, and wretchedness, the more they reject themselves and defer to God, saying, “Lord, I truly need You just as I am!” **This draws them closer to God, enabling them to obtain God as their strength.**
- ♦ **On the other hand, a perfectionist is a proud individual because sinners are inherently imperfect.** Living with a perfectionist can be challenging as they demand perfection in everything, diverging from what the Bible teaches about the pursuit of completeness.
- ♦ When Paul spoke of himself as the foremost of sinners, it was not a false humility. He genuinely saw himself in that light. The closer he got to God, the more he realized his sinful nature. When we deeply acknowledge this position, no amount of

praise from others can make us proud again. It's crucial for us to find and embrace this kind of humility.

6. Moses sees God face to face

- ♦ An ancient saint once said **“the most sincere and pure humility” arises more from contemplating God’s purity and goodness with a pure mind than from constantly thinking about our own faults and shortcomings. It’s not about fixating on our faults or shortcomings; instead, it’s about consistently looking at God seated on His high throne.** As we see more of the Lord God seated on His exalted throne, and witness His glory and majesty, we gain a deeper understanding of our own impurity and darkness, leading us to humble ourselves.
- ♦ Moses had a similar experience. Because he met with God face to face for forty days and nights, despite the frequent rebellion, complaints, and anger of the Israelites, Moses could consistently humble himself. Why could he bow down in this manner? It’s because he had seen the Lord. This is why the Scriptures describe Moses as an extremely humble person, surpassing all others.
- ♦ **The more one sees the Lord, the more genuine humility comes from God.** Such a person can bow down in all things. May the Lord grant us this vision. If we truly see His glory and recognize that we are sinners saved by God’s grace, then each time God reveals our impurity, mistakes, and deficiencies through others, we won’t react defensively. Instead, we’ll accept and acknowledge, humbling ourselves and turning more toward God, saying, “Lord, I need You! Without You, I continually fall into sin.”

II. Conclusion

- ♦ Today, one burden on my heart is that we greatly need to pray: “Lord, let me see You! I want to see You more!” When I truly see the Lord, I find my position and discover my value. I am created from the dust, but am precious in the eyes of God. He left all the glory in heaven to come and save this speck of dust, me. I am forever dust, yet in the eyes of God, I am extremely precious. When we find our value, we won’t compare ourselves to others, won’t elevate ourselves, and won’t fear being belittled by others. Even if others belittle us, it won’t harm a speck of dust.

Humility (XIV) Assignment

1. When Isaiah saw the Lord sitting on a high throne, how did he react?
2. Are there things that you know, rationally, you should change but haven't?
3. Would you, like Job, enjoy arguing with God? Are there things you used to confidently assert but now hesitate to say?
4. When you witness the work of the Holy Spirit, especially things you haven't seen before, do you criticize or question it?
5. According to the Bible, whether it's Daniel, Isaiah, Job, or John, how did their expressions change when they saw the Lord?
6. Are you a perfectionist?
7. What did the ancient saint say about the most sincere and pure humility?