PORTRAIT SOF THE CONTROLL OF THE CONTRO DVERSARIES

"Reasons for Humility"

MATTHEW 18:1-6



"Hence the saying: If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles. If you know yourself but not the enemy, for every victory gained you will also suffer a defeat. If you know neither the enemy nor yourself, you will succumb in every battle."

Sun Tzu, The Art of War



Matthew 16:21 - suffer for Jesus' sake

• In Matthew 16:24-28 - denying yourself

• In Matthew 17:12-13, 22-23 - offering Himself up to suffer for others

Jesus' Teaching on Humility



KEY POINT:

A **heart** without humility is a heart without Christ.



1. So that we might get to **heaven** (vs. 1-3)

Why Should We Be Humble?



• Acts 3:19, 26

• Acts 11:21; 15:19; 26:20

Acts 26:18

I Thessalonians 1:9

Salvation as a Transformation and Re-direction

"God creates out of nothing. Therefore, until a man is nothing, God can make nothing out of him."

Martin Luther



1. So that we might get to **heaven** (vs. 1-3)

2. So that we might know true greatness (vs. 4)

Why Should We Be Humble?



- "an acknowledgement and an attitude of unworthiness"
- Job 40:4 "Behold, I am of small account; what shall I answer you? I lay my hand on my mouth."
- Isaiah 6:5 "And I said, 'Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; FOR my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

What is Humility?

- emptying yourself of swelling thoughts of self
- thinks better of others than of self
- a low **esteem** of its duties
- prefers bills of indictment against itself
- takes reproof for sin
- willing to have its gifts eclipsed
- likes the condition that God sees best for him

7 Distinctives of Genuine Humility (T. Watson)



"11 The greatest among you shall be your servant.

12 Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted."

Matthew 23:11-12



1. So that we might get to **heaven** (vs. 1-3)

2. So that we might know true greatness (vs. 4)

3. So that we might not offend others (vs. 5-6)

Why Should We Be Humble?



"Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble."

I Corinthians 8:13





- We disregard their needs.
- We tempt others to sin.
- We are legalistic about sin.
- We tolerate sin.
- We set a poor example.
- We fail to lead someone to righteousness.

We Do Spiritual Harm When...

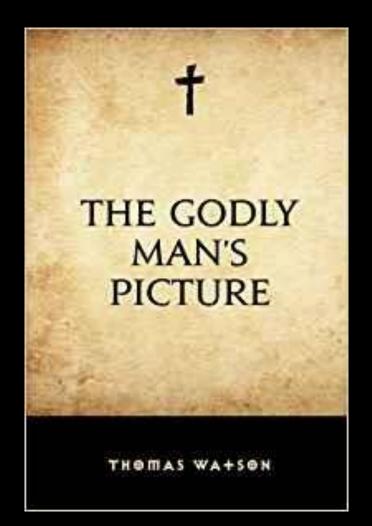
"Therefore let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother."

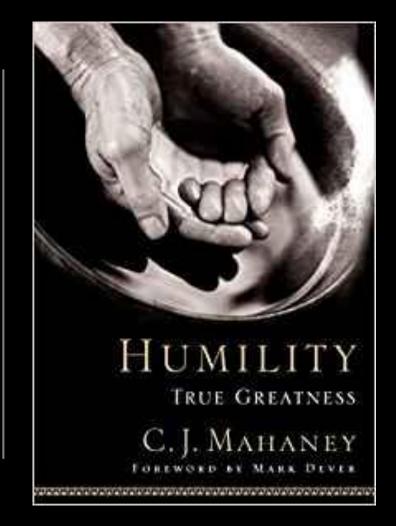
Romans 14:13

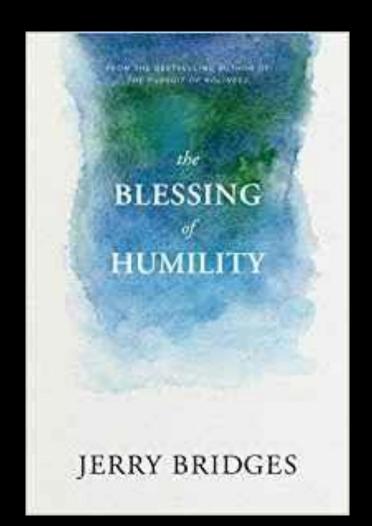


"1 We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. ² Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. ³ For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, 'The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me."

Romans 15:1-3





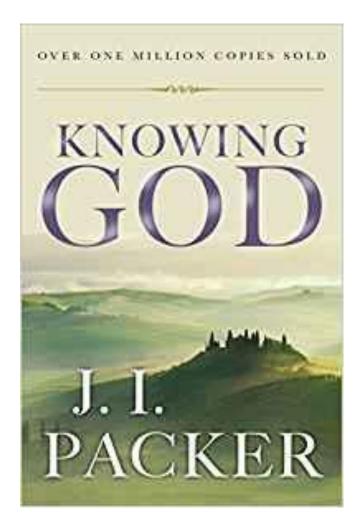


1. Study God.

Suggestions for Growing in Humility



MORE THAN 500,000 COPIES SOLD THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE HOLY A. W. TOZER



1. Study God.

2. Reflect often on the cross.

Suggestions for Growing in Humility



1. Study God.

2. Reflect often on the cross.

3. Be thankful.

Suggestions for Growing in Humility

