

Humility is a key to seeing God use us as His servants

I was studying Jesus as a prophet: He prophesies the written Word then He humbly submits to that word.

Matt:21 [1-11] Here we see a major key in the way God's Kingdom functions – HUMILITY.

LOWLY - praus (Greek) means a humility that is considerate, unassuming, gentle mild meek (power under perfect control).

THE KING OF KINGS, LORD OF LORDS to which every knee shall bow, acts in humility.

*****In God's Kingdom, humility is required from the king.*****

We can see the complete contrast to this in previous chapter and in Luke 22:24 where disciples are looking for a position.

We are all called to heal the sick etc. There is (also) an anointing or grace on us, as individuals, which comes from God.

It is actually that anointing that puts you in position... Gifting makes a way for you.

I want a position for my sons Mt 20:20-23.

They (disciples) wanted a position; He humbled himself unto death.

Jesus was saying God promotes (Mt:20:23).

If you seek a position it can be disastrous: or if you step outside your anointing or grace.

Rom:12:6 paraphrase - work within your gifting ...anointing ...grace.

Your gifting (from above) will determine your position.

JOHN THE BAPTIST recognised this. John 3:27: "A man can receive nothing unless it has been given to him from Heaven".

What can we say about John the Baptist?

- John the Baptist: anointed before birth (No Drink).
- He prepared the way for the Lord.
- Revelation of Jesus (Messiah Christ). The Lamb. Bridegroom.
- Challenged the religious leaders...
- He understood Jesus needs to get the glory...
- vv29-30 His only ambition to be close to Jesus and hear his voice.
-

In my time I have seen many anointed people fall because of pride.

- I will
- I am the important one here
- I have the answers here
- It is because of me
- Look at my gifting

LOWLY praus (Greek) means a humility that is considerate, unassuming, gentle mild meek (power under perfect control). When I heard this definition I thought of Russel.

Worship is very important (pride, devil): Russel unassuming etc, relies on God for help – perfect.

To understand humility we need to look at Jesus.

He would very often declare what the Word said about Him in great power and boldness.

LUKE 4:16-21

V 18 (Is 61) The Spirit of the living God is upon me...

V 20 SAT DOWN ..in the seat which awaited ELIJAH or the MESSIAH. This was no shrinking violet... I am the Messiah, the anointed one, the Christ.

THEY wanted to kill him... we know you... "Are you not Joseph's son?"

Testimony to the power of the Holy Spirit upon him.

Humility: the Spirit of the living God is upon me to preach etc (THE Lord)

When praised, He replies, "It is the Father doing his work through me".

Humility is - I need you Lord.

In this chapter, Matt:21, we see another fruit of humility. Jesus humbled himself under the word; submitted to it. v5

Raising Lazarus did exactly what he was told to do. Jn 11:4

I trust you Lord "I know that you hear me Lord". Jn 11:42

Humility is doing whatever the Word says: healing, reaching out to the lost, using the gifts.

The King is coming to you **LOWLY...** He prophesied the Word then he obeyed the word (came under it).

****JESUS HUMBLLED HIMSELF under the Word - unto death.

Father if you can... NOT MY WILL.

*****He defeated death, sin, sickness, shame, rejection, and poverty disarmed the enemy.

We need to humble ourselves under the word... (authority) it brings **victory**.

James 4:4 **is heavy duty** (about sin).

God actually OPPOSES THE PROUD. Pride says, "IWILL". Humility says, "NOT MY WILL".

James 4:6 God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Therefore submit to God resist the devil and he will flee from you.

"The word of God is living and active, sharper than a double edged sword dividing spirit and soul, joint and marrow it judges the thoughts and attitudes of our HEARTS."

We sometimes need to look at ourselves (through the Word), admit, "I got this wrong" and respond according to the Word.

The situation changes as I respond in the way I should. We can then resist the devil and he will flee.

Humility brings victory in spiritual warfare.

*** Remember (spiritual warfare).Eph:6 we are in a war. We are called to fight. Feeling of hopelessness, put on the armour.

James 4:v8 HUMILITY leads to GREATER INTIMACY.

Ps 34:18 God is looking for CONTRITE HEARTS. "The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves such as have a contrite spirit."

King David recognised his need to say: I got it wrong ***cried out for intimacy.
Who can climb my mountain? (clean hands and pure heart).

As Jesus humbles himself, HIS Glory is revealed - Matt 21:8.

When God reveals himself, even the children know it is him.
When He comes we know it. **It may not be in the way we expect.**

TORONTO - kids roaring and praying (we are called to be like kids, in faith).
When I first went to Toronto I was struck by the children worshipping God.
KNOWING IT WAS GOD... In humility submitting to the Holy Spirit and then prophesying in faith as only a child could.

YOUTH IN OXGANGS queuing

One night I was door to door knocking and not a lot was happening. Then the HOLY SPIRIT said to me, "Go to the high flats and I will give you a glimpse of my power". As we got there we entered the back of the building which was unusual. We met a gang of youngsters (7). I immediately told them the gospel and that Jesus was still healing people now. Suddenly the power of God fell, as I laid hands on one lad he was healed immediately from a painful poisoned foot that the doctors couldn't fix. God pinned one guy who was getting aggressive to the wall, three girls were weeping, and one lad ran out screaming, who I found later lying on the grass in peace.

The word spread and when I was out next a really big group of pretty wild teenagers approached me for prayer, I told them I would if they lined up. God really touched them. So because in humility I obeyed God he touched lives.

Perhaps humility is the key now?

2 Chron:7:14 If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.