

WALKING IN HUMILITY

Micah 6:6-8

INTRODUCTION

- A. Disney movie, Beauty and the Beast.
 - 1. More I watched, more I realized the lesson of pride.
 - 2. It was the common problem of both the Beast and Gaston.
- B. The Jews pride:
 - 1. Based on the covenant of circumcision and the Law.
 - 2. Because of this – they were righteous, so everyone should listen to them!
 - 3. Romans 2:17-21a
- C. Is it possible that the reason we struggle in the church today, for the same reason the Jews struggles? PRIDE!

I. HUMILITY – THE GREATEST VIRTUE.

- A. A Few Requirements of the Lord.
 - 1. Micah 6:8 – what the Lord wants.
 - 2. For us to walk in humility.
- B. Man's Natural Inclination.
 - 1. Not humility, but pride – self-sufficiency, and self-exaltation.
 - 2. Proverbs 16:18 – *“Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.”*
 - 3. 1 Peter 5:5 – clothe with humility...
 - 4. Not necessarily a braggart, could be just as easily, the shy, nice, “religious man”.
- C. Examples of Prideful Life.
 - 1. 1 Samuel 15:17 – King Saul – humble.
 - 2. Daniel 4:30, 34, 37 – Nebuchadnezzar.
 - 3. How true the words of Jesus, Luke 14:11, *“For everyone who exalts himself shall be humbled, and he who humbles himself shall be exalted.”*

II. THE SECRET OF USEFULNESS TO GOD.

- A. Humility Is the Secret.
 - 1. The men most used by God.
 - 2. The men most admired by others.
 - 3. Humble is not the same as weak.
 - a. Jesus was not a weak man – spoke with authority.
 - b. Numbers 12:3 – *“Now the man Moses was very humble, more than any man who was on the face of the earth.”*
 - 4. Humility – a quality to be sought after.
 - a. Zephaniah 2:3 – seek righteousness, seek humility...
 - b. Matthew 11:28-29 – come, learn of Me...
- B. Cultivating Greater Humility.
 - 1. Recognize continually our need to depend on God. Revelation 3:14-17
 - 2. Live for the honor of God, not the honor of men.
 - a. Matthew 6:1, 3-4
 - b. Psalm 115:1

3. Keep an honest estimate of ourselves.
 - a. Romans 12:3
 - b. Not too “great” or too “lowly”.
4. Speak little about ourselves.
 - a. Proverbs 27:2
 - b. Must focus on the mark of Jesus.
5. Quit comparing ourselves with others.
 - a. 2 Corinthians 10:12
 - b. Two things happen when we compare:
 - i. We become proud – we’re better.
 - ii. We become depressed – don’t measure up.
 - c. Pride is thinking we are better than others, more capable, better looking...
 - d. Hebrews 12:2 – fixing our eyes on Jesus.
6. Realize continually the grace of God in our lives.
 - a. 1 Kings 16:2, warning against Baasha (Israel).
 - b. By His grace we are saved. Ephesians 2:8
 - c. Sometimes treat as a favor from us to follow God.
 - d. All our accomplishments through God. 1 Corinthians 15:10

CLOSING

- A. Are we striving to live a humble life?
- B. Are we claiming to be what we are not?
- C. Are we letting God control our lives?