

Mature Love Defined Part 4

I. Humility - “Meekness Manifest”

- “Love is not puffed up (proud) ” (**1 Cor. 13:4**)
 - A.** Humility is the character of the love of God that does not insist on His personal rights, but instead puts others before Himself. I believe this particular characteristic of the love of God is the most elusive to our flesh. Specifically, in our western culture humility is not viewed as a character trait that is admired. (**Phil. 2:2-8, 2 Cor. 8-9**)
 - B.** However biblically, humility is the predominant character trait and recognized actions of those who are “greatest” in the kingdom of God. Fascinating displays of power, and worldwide ministry impact are not listed as great in the eyes of our God. His heart is drawn to the humble and the lowly. (**Ps. 149:4, Is. 66:2**)
 - C.** The only character traits that Jesus proclaimed about Himself were His meekness and humility. He was constantly provoking His disciples to imitate His heart and acts of humility. Growing in humility is available to everyone everywhere, no matter what the circumstances. (**Mat. 11:29, John 13:14-15**)
 - D.** Synonyms of Humility - Lowliness, servant heart, reserve, and non ego
 - E.** Antonyms of Humility - Arrogance, egoism, pride, self-importance.

II. Gods Glorious Unchanging Acts of Humility

- A.** In heaven (Creation and Manifestation) (**Ps. 113, Is. 42:1-3, Is 53:1-3, Zec. 9:9, Mic. 5:2, Phil 2:5-8**)
 - 1. The Godhead dwelling in perfect love, omniscience, and omnipotence can do whatever He wants. He has no need to create humanity, but His heart of humility compels Himself to create us, and destine us for greatness in His kingdom. His plan from creation to eternally dwelling with man is filled with humility in every detail.

B. Incarnate (Glorifying God) (Dan 7:3, Mat. 20:25-28, John 13:3-8, 2 Cor. 10:1, Acts 8:32, 1 Pet. 2:22-23)

1. Jesus is God in-flesh, demonstrating who God is and what He is like at every moment. He was not enduring a season of humility, in hopes that one day he would be free from having to endure lowliness. On the contrary, He delights in humility and abhors a prideful heart.

C. Second Coming (World wide leadership over every sphere) (Ps. 45:1-6, Luke 12:31-37, Rev 3:21, 5:10)

1. It's common to think that His identity as a suffering servant was only a season or a phase of the redemptive plan of God for humanity. Our unchanging God will be true to His nature in every season and in every circumstance. Our King, will lead us into our eternal destiny through humility and service.