

THE NEMEISES OF MINISTRY
From a Biblical Christian Perspective

Reeling inwardly with shock, pain, and despair while keeping my composure outwardly over a half stated, curt, comment, drove me to consider why it was stated as it was and why did I react inwardly the way I did? After pondering this for a period of time on my bed at night, the Lord helped me to put it together and understand the problem. (Psalms 6:1-10 & Psalms 63:1-11)

Pride and Humility are two opposing forces in any ministry. Humility is elusive and pride is delusive. When I think that I have humility, it eludes me. When I think that I have conquered pride, it has deluded me.

Pride will always challenge humility and portray it as weakness rather than meekness. Pride will defend the sins of some while attacking the ability of others or it will place one's ability over sinful behavior if it is beneficial to the one pride possesses.

Pride's purposes are self-gratification and exulting. Pride is jealous when others are praised. Pride places itself in the Judgment Seat of Christ as the judge of all men and their works. Pride justifies one's actions as being right. Pride allows for no self-examination, repentance, remorse, and true attempt for reconciliation. Pride does not want others to succeed unless it is beneficial to the one in whom pride has taken up its residence in. Pride eventually destroys its host.

Humility causes one to attempt to see one's self as God sees them. Humility acknowledges one's shortcomings, inadequacies, failures, sins, frailties and needs. Humility does not excuse sin but with the Word of God, comes along side to point to the Savior's remedy. Humility does not attack another's ability who is less skilled, but comes along side as a mentor. Humility accepts the limitations of others and encourages them. Humility rejoices in the success of others. Humility is self-examining in the light of God's Word. Humility esteems others better than one's self. Humility bows before the Judgment Seat of Christ. True humility will eventually cause its host to be exalted by God in due season (I Peter 5:6).

What then is pride and humility? Pride is actually the seat of the "Law of Sin" that abides in the flesh (Romans 7:15-25). It is what caused Lucifer to rebel against God (Isaiah 14:12-15). It is what caused the fall of man (Genesis 3:1-24). It is what we inherited from Adam (Romans 5:12-21). Is it any wonder that it is so prevalent and powerful in our lives?

Humility is actually the demeanor of the "Law of the Spirit" and abides in all those who are truly born again of the Spirit (Romans 8:1-17). It is the character of the incarnate Christ and His act of redemption through His death upon the cross and His resurrection from the dead: Philippians 2:5-11.

It is displayed in the believer when they are Spirit filled (controlled by the Holy Spirit, Ephesians 5:18-21). It requires a complete surrender to the Lordship of Christ and acknowledgment of His headship over us. It requires the realization of all accountability to Him ultimately and to those whom He has placed over us for the time being. Let this grace of humility be a part of our life for His glory.

In His Grace,

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