

## HOW TO LOVE

### Love & Humility

#### I. Colossians 3:12-To walk in love you have to be wearing the right stuff

- A. Put on is not a suggestion, it's a commandment – So should we put these things on?
1. There's something that every elect of God should be wearing because He just told you to put it on
    - a. You are holy-Uncommon, non-ordinary; You are not like everybody else, you are not like the world
    - b. You are beloved-You couldn't love others if God didn't first love you, but because he did first love you, then lets get to it; You don't stop on his love for you, you continue through to loving other people
  2. **Put on**-To sink into (clothing), put on, clothe one's self, arrayed in, be endued, be plunged into
- B. Forbearing and forgiving one another is connected to these things that he's telling you to put on and without putting these things on you won't be able to forbear and forgive
1. Ephesians 6:11-Why put on the armor? To STAND AGAINST the wiles of THE DEVIL, that you may be able to withstand/RESIST the evil one
    - a. You wouldn't even be able to withstand and resist and stand against the evil one without this armor
      - 1) The armor makes you able; It's what you wear in your dealings with the evil one and it enables you to overcome him
    - b. Questions?
      - 1) Should you and I put this armor on? If we desire to overcome the evil one then we better put it on
      - 2) Should we take it lightly that God told us to put the armor on?
      - 3) How well will it work if somebody goes and tries to stand against the evil one without his armor? It won't work
      - 4) Would you say, "*Oh I know the armor is important, but I'm just going to go fight the devil. I'm interested in fighting the devil and I need to learn more about fighting the devil and yeah I know the armor is important, but I'm interested in learning about resisting the evil one and standing against him.*" – You can't talk about fighting the devil without talking about this armor
    - c. **We've majored on the armor of God and told people to put on the armor of God and studied each piece, but when is the last time you heard somebody give that kind of time to what you are supposed to put on in Colossians 3:12?**
      - 1) **Is the PUT ON in Colossians 3:12 as important as the PUT ON in Ephesians 6:11**

2. Colossians 3:12-13-Put on these things so that you can forbear and forgive one another
    - a. Why would you need to put on bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, and longsuffering? So that you can forbear and forgive your brethren
      - 1) **You put the armor of God on to stand against the wiles of the devil, but you clothe yourself with compassion, humility, meekness, and patience to deal with each other**
    - b. Compassion, Humility, Meekness and longsuffering is going to enable you to love your brethren
      - 1) If you don't put these on, then you won't be able to love your brethren
      - 2) If you don't put on what he tells you to in verse 12 then you can't do verse 13
    - c. Should you put these things on? If you desire to love your people and forbear and forgive, then you better put them on
  3. **The mistake we've made is we give very little time to these things, and then a whole lot of time telling people they need to love one another; So then in the right heart people go to love other people and what they find out is they are unequipped to get that job done because they went to loving other people without their clothes on**
    - a. I believe as we major on and develop in compassion, humility, meekness, longsuffering, the love of God will flow more naturally
    - b. We shouldn't take this "PUT ON" in Colossians 3:12 lightly b/c it is impossible to forbear, forgive and love another without them
      - 1) How loving are you going to be without compassion, humility, meekness and longsuffering?  
Not very much at all
  4. You own these things, but if you don't put them on you won't have them on; It's like owning clothes and not putting them on
    - a. These things have been in our spiritual closet and they still got the tags on them and look like we've never worn them
    - b. We have to make an on purpose effort to put these on
    - c. **If you'd put these things on it'd be much easier for you to act right in your dealings with people**
- C. Ephesians 4:1-3-We see the same types of things in this verse: Lowliness, meekness, longsuffering
1. Conduct your life WITH lowliness, meekness, long suffering forbearing one another in love, endeavoring to keep you unity
  2. Without lowliness, long suffering, meekness there will be no forbearing and there will be no unity
  3. People have said, "Why can't we all just get along?" – The answer is because unity requires humility, longsuffering, and meekness

**II. There's a direct connection between your level of humility and your level of strength in the love walk;  
Weak in humility = Weak in love; Strong in humility = Strong in Love**

- A. Proverbs 13:10-They only way contention and strife comes is by pride
1. Definitions: **Pride**-Insolence, presumption, arrogance; **Contention**-Strife, struggle, quarrelsome, Contention in anger
  2. **If we got rid of pride and developed in humility, towards you humility strife would have no way in**
    - a. **If you didn't have any pride there would be no strife, no contention**
    - b. **The more you develop in humility they stronger you'll be in love and unity**
  3. **We talk your ears off about love, but if you don't develop in your humility you'll struggle to grow in love**
    - a. The idea that we can talk to you about love and ignore humility and have you develop in love is just false
    - b. **We've had the idea I got to develop more in love, but maybe you need to develop away from pride**
  4. Versions-**JUB**-Pride shall certainty give birth to contention; **BBE**-The only effect of pride is fighting; **MSG**-Arrogant know-it-alls stir up discord; **NIV**-Pride only breeds quarrels; **DR**-Among the proud there are always contentions; **TNIV**-Where there is strife, there is pride; **ERV**-Pride causes arguments; **NLV**-Fighting comes only from pride
    - a. If there are arguments, quarrels, and contentions seem to follow you around everywhere you go, you maybe the problem and if you seem to have something against just about everybody it's the result of pride in the heart; **Strife in life come as the result of pride in the heart**
- B. Proverbs 28:25-Pride in your heart will hinder your love walk
1. **Darby**-He that is puffed up in soul excites contention; **NASB**-An arrogant man stirs up strife; **NLV**-A proud man starts fights
  2. You can't try to walk in love with strife stirring heart, it just want work
- C. Ephesians 4:2-3-Before unity is humility and there will be no unity without humility
1. If you're going to live in peace with people you're going to have to develop in humility
- D. 1 Corinthians 13:4-5-Love is not puffed up
1. Love is never deceived into thinking to highly of itself
    - a. Love does not arrogantly claim that it is better than others
    - b. A person who has an air of superiority and haughtiness or a person who is snooty, snobbish in his dealings with other people
  2. **Puffed up**-Proud, swollen, inflated; Inflate, to blow up, to cause to swell up, make proud, to bear one's self loftily

**III. Pride definition-What's the opposite of humility? Pride; If we can get an understanding of what pride is, then we'll have a good idea of what humility is because it's the opposite of pride**

- A. In our minds our definition of pride is a lot closer to the truth than our definition of humility
  - 1. I've had Christians who have been saved for decades tell me a person is humble because of the car he drives
- B. To be lifted up, to be high, to be lofty, exalt oneself
  - 1. The same Hebrew word was used to describe the height of: Job 22:11-Stars; Isaiah 6:1-The Lord; Deuteronomy 12:2-Mountains; Ezekiel 6:13-High hill; Ezekiel 17:22-High Tree; Deuteronomy 1:28-People; Isaiah 49:11-Highways exalted; Deuteronomy 27:14-Voice; Exodus 14:8-High hand; Proverbs 11:11-City exalted; Genesis 7:14-The ark; Isaiah 52:13-God's servant; Psalm 27:6-Head above enemies
  - 2. G1341-Proud, rise up, lifted up, exalted, excellency, swelling of sea, haughtiness, arrogance, pomp, a rising up of a column of smoke
  - 3. The idea here is that when you are in pride you are lifted up and you need to be brought down- Isaiah 2:11-12
    - a. The lofty looks shall be humbled; The haughtiness (height, loftiness) of men shall be bowed down; Proud and lofty and lifted up shall be brought low
    - b. *Isaiah 10:32-And the ones of high stature shall be hewn down and the haughty shall be humbled*
    - c. *2 Samuel 22:28-Your eyes are upon the haughty (Lifted up) that you may bring them down*
    - d. *Job 40:11-12-Every one that is proud abase him; Look on every one that is proud bring him low*
    - e. *Daniel 4:37-Those that walk in pride God is able to abase (bring low)*
  - 4. Romans 12:3-We are not to think more HIGHLY of ourselves than we ought to think; Think in line with the truth of God's word
- C. Pride is untrue loftiness, an untrue over estimation of yourself (Proverbs 6:17 AMP-It's an over estimation of yourself)
  - 1. An pompous estimate of one's means or merits, a swollen estimate of his own powers or merits
  - 2. **Pride and deception go together because a person in pride is deceived and thinking more highly of himself than he really is**
    - a. **Pride always deals in fantasy, lies, untruths, non-reality**
    - b. Obadiah 3, Jeremiah 49:16-They are deceived in their pride; they believe nobody can bring us down and they have an untrue over estimation of themselves and God says I'm going to bring you down
  - 3. You see a connection throughout scripture of pride and lies because a person in pride is believing lies about themselves
    - a. *Isaiah 16:6-AMP-We have heard the pride of Moab, that he is very proud – even of his arrogance, his conceit, his wrath, his untruthful boasting*

- b. Jeremiah 48:29-We heard of the giddy pride of Moab, the extremely proud one – his loftiness, his arrogance, his conceit, and the haughtiness of his heart. I know his insolent wrath, says the Lord, and the nothingness of his boastings and his deeds; they are false and have accomplished nothing
  - c. *Psalm 31:18-Let the lying lips be put to silence; which speak grievous things proudly and contemptuously against the righteous*
  - d. *Psalm 59:12-For the sin of their mouth and the words of their lips let them even be taken in their pride: and for cursing and lying which they speak*
4. Psalm 10-This guy is living in the realm of pride based fantasy
    - a. 4-All his thoughts are that there is no God so He never punishes
    - b. 6-He said I shall never be moved, for I shall never be in adversity
    - c. 7-Here's the connection of pride and lying
    - d. 11-He said God has forgotten and will never see it
  5. Proverbs 11:1-2-A false estimation of reality is abomination to the Lord
    - a. Pride deals in fantasy; They need to be brought back to earth; There's a coming down from fantasy to reality
    - b. **The only thing you need to get delivered from pride is a good does of reality, of truth, of honesty**
  6. If people are boasting even if what they are saying about themselves is true you would think the way they are acting that they have everything to do with what they have or what they did and nobody helped and they're so great and they did it all alone because of their greatness and that's not true because if it weren't for the grace of God they wouldn't have done or been anything but the way they talk they're acting like it was all them and it wasn't all them
- D. Prides perception of reality is dim-G5187
1. To raise a smoke, to wrap in **mist**-That which dims or darkens and obscures or intercepts vision
    - a. To blind with pride or conceit, to render foolish or stupid; Beclouded, Besotted
  2. The idea here is you don't see reality
    - a. Proverbs 30:12:13-There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes and yet is not washed from their filthiness; There is a generation, O how lofty are their eyes and their eyelids are lifted up
      - 1) The idea is the think they are pure and believe they are pure and their eyes are lofty because they are not
    - b. Deuteronomy 8:14-Then your heart be lifted up and you forget the Lord thy God
      - 1) The idea is you start thinking your something and you're not

- E. There's also a contempt for other people and the way they do things; An air of superiority-(Psalm 123:4-  
The contempt of the proud)
1. The character of one who, with a swollen estimate of his own powers or merits, looks down on others and even treats them with insolence and contempt; despising others or even treating them with contempt, haughty
  2. **Insolent**-Proud and haughty with a contempt of others
  3. You are not "better" than anybody; If you are anything it's by the grace of God

#### IV. What is true humility?

- A. Rather than high, humility is low; Low, not rising far from the ground, Low as opposed to high and lofty
1. Latin Word-Humilis-Low, lowly, small, slight, base,
  2. Lowliness, Humbleness of mind
    - a. Tapeinos (First Greek Word)-Not rising from the ground; As a condition, lowly, of low degree, base
    - b. Frane (Second Greek Word)-The mind; the faculty of perceiving and judging
- B. Rather than living in some fantasy, where you've exalted yourself to some high and lofty place you've lowered yourself to reality
1. Humility always deals in reality, in truth-2 Corinthians 12:6
    - a. **Latin Word Humus-Ground, earth, soil, land, country; rather than living in the clouds in some fantasy world you come to earth**
  2. Humility is not the making of one's self small when he is really great, but thinking little of one's self, because this is in a sense the right estimate for any human being, however great – It's reality
    - a. **A proper estimate of one's own worth (Modesty-Decency, properly, suitable fit, humility)**
  3. **A deep sense of one's (moral) littleness**
- C. There is a false humility-Colossians 2:18,23 (It lowers itself below reality)
1. VOICE- Don't be cheated out of the prize by others who are peddling the worship of heavenly beings and **false humility**. People like this run about telling *whoever will listen* what they claim to have seen; but in reality they testify only to an inflated mind, saturated in conceit—*not in the Spirit*.<sup>23</sup> *Here's what they are promoting:* fabricated religion, **self-humiliation**, and bodily abuse.
  2. MSG-Don't tolerate people who try to run your life, ordering you **to bow and scrape**, insisting you join their obsession with angels and that you seek out visions. They're a lot of hot air, that's all they are. **Such things sound impressive if said in a deep enough voice. They give even they illusion of being pious and humble.** But they are just another way of showing off, making yourselves look important.
  3. People think degrading yourself is humility and being poor is humble and being drab and bland and gray is humble and if that's the case then that would make God the most proud being every

- a. A lot of time these things look humble to the untrained eye, but they are not humility
- b. If you shouldn't think more highly of yourself than you ought, then you shouldn't think more lowly of yourself than you ought

D. Act of submission-1 Peter 5:6-Humble yourself under the mighty hand of God

- 1. To submit one's self in a lowly spirit to the power and will of God
- 2. Whatever God says is what's right and true; I don't know better than him

E. We are supposed to put humility on and you can't walk in love without wearing humility-Colossians 3:12, 1 Peter 5:5

- 1. It's like trying to walk in space without a space suit; it's not going to work
- 2. Romans 12:16 (Amplified)-Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty (snobbish, high-minded, exclusive), but readily adjust yourself to [people, things] and give yourselves to humble tasks. Never overestimate yourself or be wise in your own conceits.

**V. To love people you're going to have to be strong in humility because pride pulls you out of love**

A. James 4:10-12-Humble yourself and don't speak evil of one another; when you are speaking evil of one another you're in pride

- 1. When are you judging? When you speak evil of your brother you are judging your brother
- 2. When you are a judge you are not a doer
- 3. Voice-Lay yourself *bare, facedown to the ground*, in humility before the Lord; and He will lift your head *so you can stand tall*.<sup>11</sup> My brothers and sisters, do not assault each other with criticism. If you decide your job is to accuse and judge another believer, then you are a self-appointed critic and judge of the law; if so, then you are no longer a doer of the law *and subject to its rule*; you stand over it as a judge.<sup>12</sup> *Know this*—there is One who stands supreme as Judge and Lawgiver. He alone is able to save and to destroy, so who are you to *step in and try* to judge another?
- 4. There's a connection between humility and not speaking evil of your brother and judging your brother
  - a. **When you are judging people and being hard on them and being critical, and giving them no mercy you're acting like you've never done anything like that, pretending in pride, living in fantasy not reality with a loft and untrue estimation of yourself**
  - b. Humility deals in reality and the reality is you've done stuff just like that and worse than that; Be real; you've been where they've been, you've acted like they've acted, you've missed it like they've missed it; I'd never do anything like that – You've done stuff just like that and worse
- 5. Because you've missed it too and made mistakes too then who are you to judge?

B. To be hard on your brother and be critical of him and judge him you have to get into pride, go into the fantasy world and pretend like you've never done anything like that

1. Matthew 7:1-5- You're going to have to pretend like there's nothing in your eye to judge your brother for his speck
    - a. 1-Amp-Do not judge and criticize and condemn others
    - b. 3-You don't consider (perceive) the beam in your own eye because pride has deceived you and clouded your vision
    - c. 3-4-The only way you could see a speck in your brothers eye and be critical of him for having the speck when you have a beam in your eye is to pretend you don't have the beam and to pretend you don't have the beam is to live in a fantasy world
      - 1) To try to reach for his speck with a beam in your own eye you'd have to be pretending the beam is not there
      - 2) That's what pride does it lives in a fantasy world that I'm somehow superior and therefore I can correct and judge
    - d. 5-This is the behavior of a hypocrite
  2. John 8-They are acting like they've never done anything that violated the law, like they've never sinned and they are living in a fantasy world the pride of their heart has deceived them
  3. To judge and be critical rather than forbear and forgive you'd have to pretend that you are somehow superior and have never done anything like that
    - a. When you're operating in humility you'll operate in reality and if you do see a speck in your brothers eye you'll say, "Man I've had beams in my eyes before and had it not been for the Lord I'd still have them and you know some of those beams didn't come out real quickly and the Lord was patient with me and gave me time; who am I to judge my brother when I've and specks and beams just like him and the Lord was gracious to me and merciful to me and therefore the least I could do is show that shame mercy for my brother."
    - b. **Why don't you cool it, humble yourself and come down to earth? And stop pretending like you've never missed it, like you've never made a mistake.**
- C. Romans 2-Whatever you judge others for doing, you are doing the same things
1. Philips-Now if you feel inclined to set yourself up as a judge of those who sin, **let me assure you, whoever you are, that you are in no position to do so.** For at whatever point you condemn others you automatically condemn yourself, since you, the judge, commit the same sins.
    - a. You're in no position to do so because you've missed it just like they've missed it
  2. MSG-Those people are on a dark spiral downward. But if you think that leaves you on the high ground where you can point your finger at others, think again. Every time you criticize someone, you condemn yourself. It takes one to know one.
  3. VOICE-So you can see there are no excuses for any of us. If your eyes shift their focus from yourselves to others—to judge *how they are doing*—you have already condemned yourselves! **You**



**don't realize that you are pointing your fingers at others for the exact things you do as well.** <sup>2</sup>There's no doubt that the judgment of God will justly fall upon hypocrites who practice such things. <sup>3</sup>*Here's what is happening:* **you attack and criticize others and then turn around to commit the same offenses yourselves!** Do you think you will somehow dodge God's judgment? <sup>4</sup>Do you take the kindness of God for granted? Do you see His patience and tolerance as signs that He is a pushover *when it comes to sin*? How could you not know that His kindness is guiding our hearts to turn away from *distractions and habitual sin* to walk a new path?