

The Humble Servant

David has been anointed king of Israel. He has been sent to Saul to play music that eased the demonic oppression God allowed upon him. David was sent to the seat of government to see the work of the king as part of his preparation. Now David has been sent back home where he resumed his duties for his father. He was his father's humble servant.

Vs 12-16 – The Setting

Vs 12 – Ephrathite – one from the area around Bethlehem; Jesse was old/advanced

Vs 13-14 Jesse's 3 oldest sons – went to war with Saul; David the youngest

Vs 15 – Back and forth from Saul to his father – tending sheep

- David was promoted and yet is now back as his father's servant
- David performed many jobs for His heavenly Father
- David was willing and content to take any role his heavenly Father desired.

Vs 16 – Goliath – preparing us for David's mission and promotion

Vs 17-19 – The Humble Servant

Vs 17-19 – David's delivery service – opportunity for ministry: defeat enemies of God; assurance – pledge; indication of victory – Jesse expected victory and blessing

- David's mission (delivery) was not David's real mission (Goliath)
- The duties of every day life offer opportunities for spiritual ministry
- God uses the details of every day life to put us in places to ministry.

Principles of Humility

1. Hebrew and Greek Etymology:

- Anah – lowly, weak, helpless – recognize and accept your weakness
- Kana – surrendered – to surrender to the person and will of God
- Tapeinos – defeated, captives – allow God to bring you into submission

2. Def: a state of right/realistic thinking about self in relation to God and others

- **Person** – self worth; value – assign value to self because of Christ; value self because God values you; reject human systems of self esteem based on looks, talent, ability, accomplishments, opinions of others, etc.
- **Less important than God and equal to all others** – sinners saved by grace; equal in Christ; equal in opportunity and privilege.
- **Position** – authority orientation – God is the Boss; submission to legit delegated authority; team orientation – content with position on the team
- **Promotion** – trust and wait on God; reject human means of manipulation
- **Possessions** – borrowed; all belong to God; give back to God.

3. Humility is the opposite of pride and arrogance – Prov 29:23; Mt 23:12; Lk 14:11

- Pride is a subjective overvaluation of self, too hi/low importance – extremes
- Pride/arrogance makes issue out of self – sacrifice, contribution, work, ability
- Humility makes an issue out of God and others – God is center, others more important

4. Humility is the road to promotion/blessing, arrogance the road to destruction/cursing.

- 1Pt 5:5-6 – God promotes the humble at proper time – wait – Prv 15:33; 18:12
- Prv 16:18 – pride comes before destruction – haughty spirit before a fall
- Prv 22:4 – humility and fear/Lord – wealth, honor and life

5. Humility is necessary for answered prayer – 2Chr 7:14; 34:27; Psm 9:12; 10:17; 2King 22:9

- Seeking God's will not your own – Lk 22:42 – not my will but Yours.
- Give up your will and surrender to God's will.

6. Humility is developed through adversity and grace in adversity

- Dt 8:2 – the wilderness was intended to humble them
- Dt 8:16 – manna – grace was meant to show them their total dependence

7. Humility is necessary to recover from sin and disgrace – Prov 6:3

- Sin chooses my will over God's – humility abandons my will for God's
- Sin operates from false beliefs; humility takes off the old for the new

8. Humility is the essence of genuine beauty – 1Pt 3:1-6

- Submission to legit authority
- Gentle quiet spirit

9. God turns away His wrath when we humble ourselves – 2Chr 12:1-12