

Bible Lesson ~ Wednesday, September 27, 2023, by Pastor Dwight Benoit

PRAYER – Lesson 14

“Repentance Versus Pride”

James 4: 10, “Humble yourselves in **The Sight of The LORD**, and **HE** shall lift you up.”

Q. Does this mean, Do this Now?” (Imperative Voice)

Or,

Q. Does it mean, Let Yourself be Humble? (Passive Voice)

Do You agree,

--It’s positioning Your heart to be open to **GOD’S WORD**.

--It’s taking the focus off Yourself and focusing on what really matters—**GOD!**

--It’s coming to **The CROSS** with a clear conscience.

--It’s confessing Your sin(s) to **The LORD**, giving up whatever is burdening You, and being willing to leave it at **The CROSS**.

Read Luke 18: 9-14...

JESUS describes how many men? _____ Who went to The Temple to **PRAY**?

Who were they? A religious _____. He stood or sat down? He described how bad or great He was? He acknowledged how unlike He was from the wicked sinners around Him? True or False? He boasted about the good things He had done and self-righteously assumed He didn’t need to Repent of anything. True or False?

JESUS described the other man as _____?

He stood close to the front where the others were. True or False? He recognized His need for **GOD** and forgiveness. True or False? Lowering His head in Repentance, He begged **The LORD** for Mercy in light of His sin(s). True or False?

JESUS ended the story by saying the _____ walked away “justified” and “right” with **GOD**, but the prideful _____ did not.

How did **JESUS** draw the bottom line? Read Luke 18: 14?

Q. Which attitudes best describes how You approach **GOD** in **PRAYER**? Humbly or Pridefully?

In Humility we see more clearly our need for **GOD**... **HIS** guidance, **HIS GRACE**, **HIS** Forgiveness. In Humility we honestly admit our sin(s), sincerely cry out to **GOD** for forgiveness, and repent from what displeases **GOD**.

Pride, however, resists, it’s beneath us, it’s a sign of weakness.

Pride assumes self-sufficiency and boasts of self-righteousness.

Pride says “I’m a good person. I’m not perfect, but I don’t do bad things. This is my Life. I’m in control. I should get what I want and get the credit for what I do. I know better than those folk. I deserve better than they do. Basically, “Mine is the kingdom, mine is the power, and mine is the glory.”

The Deception behind Pride...

Read Galatians 6: 3

Read Proverbs 6: 16-17

Read Proverbs 11: 2

Read Proverbs 29: 23

Let's look at those who walked closely with GOD and were used in Miraculous ways, and were consistent with an attitude of Humility...

Read I Samuel 18: 18, I Chronicles 17: 16; 29: 14, Who am I? _____

Read I Timothy 1: 15, Who am I? _____

Read Joshua 7: 1-6, Who am I? _____

Read Esther 2: 17, Who am I? _____

Read Daniel 2: 17-23, Who am I? _____

All of us could admit that when we're around others who think too much of themselves, their attitudes disgust us. GOD would agree. GOD said in I Peter 5: 5, Read it. (Be more Others-centered and less Self-Centered)

Last SCRIPTURE, I Peter 5: 6-7...

Humility and anxiety, together, is like "fire" and "water." They cannot exist at the same time.

It seems so simple. Is it? What must we do? _____!