

A Humble Heart

"I have inclined my heart to perform Your statutes forever, to the very end."

Psalm 119:112



Number 66 in the series "The Joy of Obeying God's Word"

Beloved, in this scripture we see the Psalmist make a choice of his will to humble his heart, to obey God's Word forever to the very end. Other words would be to say, "He chose to humble himself, to obey God's Word as long as he lived."

Jesus was our example of true humility. Philippians 2:5-9 reads, *"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name."*

Jesus did not insist on His rights. He did not fight to protect His reputation. Instead of insisting that He be honored and served, He made Himself a bondservant. His entire lifetime on this earth was spent in obedience to God, obedience even to His death on the cross. The Holy Spirit daily gives me His power and grace to follow Jesus' example. In Luke 9:23 Jesus said to all who follow Him, *"If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me."* Beloved, I know I cannot do this in my own strength, and in the weakness of my flesh, I want to protect my reputation. When I am falsely accused, I want people to know the truth.

Since I put my trust in Christ as my Savior in March 1976, I have experienced His faithfulness to help me obey Him when I humble myself and cry out to Him for His strength in my weakness. James 4:6-10 reads, *"But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: 'God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.' Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up."* This scripture clearly tells me that if I humble myself before God, He will give me His grace to resist the devil.

I constantly cry out to Jesus to daily purge my heart of pride, stubbornness, independence, and rebellion. I cry out to Jesus to keep my heart teachable and obedient till I see Him face to face. I trust HIS AMAZING GRACE to keep my heart humble, and I trust the Holy Spirit to convict me of sin. Daily, He is transforming my life, and He wants to do the same for you.

— Janice McBride

All scripture is taken from the New King James Version of the Bible.

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