

## Humility

*Likewise you younger people submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility for "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."*

*Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time.—1 Peter 5:5-6*

We all know that humility is a virtue and that God tells us not to think more highly of ourselves than we ought. Humility means to be free of pride and arrogance. It is difficult not to think too highly of ourselves. Because we tend to think we know better than others, God reminds us to be submissive. We think that our way is the best and everyone else should know that. God says we need to be clothed, completely enveloped in humility.

It is interesting to me that the author of the passage above is Peter. When we think of Peter, we do not think of humility. He was outspoken and impetuous. He was not known for thinking highly of others. I wonder what Peter may have been thinking when he penned the word about submitting to one another. Joni Eareckson Tada suggests that Peter may have remembered the night Jesus was betrayed. Remember how Jesus gave the disciples a lesson in humility by kneeling beside the basin and gently washing the feet of His disciples. Peter's reaction was a protest.

No doubt Peter also remembered how he denied Jesus after boasting that he would never deny Christ. Just before Jesus died for his sins, Peter denied Jesus not once, but three times. He failed to exalt the Lord.

Just as Peter needed to humble Himself under the hand of God, we need to humble ourselves. We need to place ourselves under God's authority and recognize His claim on our lives. We are only sinners saved by His grace and we are worthless without Him.