

Beautiful by Humility in an Age of Anger

I. GOD'S GLORIOUS PLAN FOR YOU: TO BEAUTIFY YOUR LIFE

- A. God delights in imparting His beauty to all who embrace humility. Meekness beautifies our lives in this age and in the age to come. God views humble or gentle responses as beautiful (1 Pet. 3:4).

⁴***The LORD takes pleasure in His people; He will beautify the humble... (Ps. 149:4)***

⁴***...the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle...spirit. (1 Pet. 3:4)***

- B. The only virtue that Jesus declared about Himself was that He was meek (Mt. 11:29). Meekness is at the foundation of who God is and what He does and blesses forever. A disciple *learns meekness from Jesus*. Ask Him to teach you how to walk in meekness (humility, gentleness) in specific ways.

²⁹***“Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle [meek, humble] and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.” (Mt. 11:29-30)***

- C. Jesus is the most beautiful person; His government is forever established on meekness (Mt. 5:5). He will establish truth, meekness, and righteousness across the earth when He returns (Ps. 45:4).

²***You are fairer [more beautiful] than the sons of men; grace is poured upon Your lips; therefore God has blessed You forever. ³Gird Your sword upon Your thigh, O Mighty One...⁴And in Your majesty ride prosperously because of truth, humility, and righteousness. (Ps. 45:2-4)***

⁵***“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.” (Mt. 5:5)***

- D. I received a prophetic word (May 2005): ***“Meekness is the magnet that attracts God’s favor.”*** God is deeply attracted to meekness. It attracts His favor, His power, and His blessing. In April 1984, the Lord spoke audibly to me about humility—Joseph’s dungeon (Gen. 40:2-19).

⁶***He gives more grace. Therefore He says: “God...gives grace to the humble.” (Jas. 4:6)***

- E. The Lord will raise up a victorious end-time church in the context of great social hostility (Mt. 24:10). This is the optimum context in which love and humility will grow the fastest and deepest.

¹⁰***“And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another...”***

¹²***And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.” (Mt. 24:10-12)***

- F. The Bride of Christ will be prepared in mature love and humility when Jesus returns.

⁷***Let us be glad...for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.”***

⁸***And to her it was granted...fine linen...for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.” (Rev. 19:7-8)***

- G. The Lord is training His Bride to relate to others with the law of kindness in her mouth.

¹⁰***Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth is far above rubies...²⁶She opens her mouth with wisdom, and on her tongue is the law of kindness. (Prov. 31:10, 26)***

II. HUMILITY EXPRESSED IN OUR SPEECH

- A. James gives us one of the most practical teachings on humility in the Scripture. Humility starts with our families, marriages, and children, then extends to the marketplace, friends, and enemies.

¹⁹*But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger; ²⁰*for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God [fulfill His righteous purpose]. (Jas. 1:19-20, NASB)**

- B. The measure of our anger is the measure of our unperceived ambition.

¹*A gentle answer turns away wrath [anger], but a harsh word stirs up anger. ²The tongue of the wise makes knowledge acceptable. (Prov. 15:1-2, NASB)*

³²*He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city. (Prov. 16:32)*

- C. If we respond with anger, then our relationships will be injured, causing us unnecessary pain. How we respond when we are mistreated or when we disagree is foundational to our spiritual life.

¹⁵*But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another! (Gal. 5:15)*

- D. Walking in humility impacts the quality of our marriages and family culture as well as how our children will approach conflict and carry their hearts in their future.

- E. As peacemakers, we are to seek to bring peace and not stoke the flames of fiery arguments. We must put biblical conviction above our political opinions and arguments.

⁹*“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.” (Mt. 5:9)*

- F. As believers, we must preserve the bond of peace in the spirit of unity. We must be able to disagree with those who hold different views in a spirit of grace that respects and values their dignity.

¹*I beseech you to walk worthy of the calling...²with all lowliness and gentleness...³endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (Eph. 4:1-3)*

- G. Peter especially exhorted young people to submit to their spiritual leaders, not because their leaders are always wiser or deserve more honor, but because youth are in the strategic season of life when “the wet cement dries,” and they are forming either humility or pride that will affect their future family and destiny. We must trust God’s method and timing to exalt us.

⁵*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.”*

⁶*Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you... (1 Pet. 5:5-6)*

- H. The yoke of humility includes restraint in one’s speech, self-promotion, etc.

²⁷*It is good for a man to bear the yoke in his youth. ²⁸Let him...keep silent, because God has laid it on him; ²⁹let him put his mouth in the dust—there may yet be hope. (Lam. 3:27-29)*