

Humility of David

Series on Following God's Schedule

Dr. Goodluck Ofoegbu
Prof. Oby Ofoegbu
Banking Blessings Ministry
San Antonio, Texas
USA

What We Will Learn

- David: Power of the king belongs to the people and flows from the people
- Humility→Godliness→Humility
 - *Following God's Schedule*
 - *Living in the Image of God*
- Christ teaching
 - Greatest virtue
 - Humble will be exalted
 - Blessed are the meek

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What We Will Learn cont'd

- Manifestation of humility
 - Promise of goodness
 - Promise of appreciation
 - Promise of obedience
- Apostle Paul: Human interdependence—One Body Many Parts

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David Waited for Kingship

- Period of seven years after Saul died
- David expected to become king
- But waited patiently in humility
- Power of the king belongs to the people
- Initiated certain actions
- But mostly waited for the people
- First, Judah made him king
- Later, united Israel made him king

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Sequence of Events

- Period of seven years after Saul died
- David relocated to Hebron
- People of Judah made David king
- David reached out to Jabesh Gilead
- Abner coopts power and launches war against David but was not successful
- Abner begins negotiation to unify Israel under David

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Sequence of Events cont'd

- Joab kills Abner in cold blood
- David honors Abner but curses Joab
- Israel pleased with David
- David executes two men that murdered Ish-Boshet. Then honors Ish-Boshet
- Unified Israel makes David king
- Humility of David toward power of kingship was successful in winning over Israel

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Humility in David Kingship

- Recognized only the people of Israel could make him king over Israel
- Anointed to be king but needed people of Israel to make him king
- Imposing himself would violate Godliness
- Humility toward power of kingship
- Waited patiently in humility
- Until Israel made him king

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Humility

- Conveys message: available and willing
- To provide or receive care
- As part of human provider-receiver network
- Faithfully as God ordained
 - Provide service to benefit others
 - Receive service provided by others
- Predisposed to appreciate the other as potential provider of service as God ordained

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Humility and Godliness

- Humility lays foundation for Godliness
- Godliness breeds humility
- Sermon on the Mount: Beatitude #3
 - Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.*
- Humility toward God: *Only with God*
- Humility toward others: Another person better than *I* can be found
- A step toward the other five beatitudes

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Greatest Virtue

- Christ disciples regarded him highly following the transfiguration experience
- Were surprised he submitted to paying tax
- Wanted to know
 - Who was greatest in heaven
 - Why was he so humble despite his greatness
- Childlike humility is the greatest in heaven
- Matthew 18:1–5

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Mathew 18 (NKJV)

1 At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who then is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"

2 Then Jesus called a little child to Him, set him in the midst of them,

3 and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

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Mathew 18 (NKJV)

4 Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

5 Whoever receives one little child like this in My name receives Me.

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Humble will Be Exalted

- Christ was guest for a meal
- In the home of a prominent Pharisee
- Advised other guests
- If you exalt yourself you will be humbled
- If you humble yourself you will be exalted
- Luke 14:1 and 7–11

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Luke 14 (NIV)

1 One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched.

7 When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable:

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Luke 14 (NIV)

8 “When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited.

9 If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, ‘Give this person your seat.’ Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place.

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Luke 14 (NIV)

10 But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, ‘Friend, move up to a better place.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all the other guests.

11 For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

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Manifestation of Humility

- Message conveyed in action and words
- Promise of goodness
 - Polite, attentive, responsive, peaceful, truthful
 - Perceived as available and willing to provide or accept assistance
- Promise of care and diligence
- Promise of appreciation
- Promise of obedience

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Promise of Care and Diligence

- When in position to provide for others
- Actions and words convey a message
- Can be relied upon
 - To recognize need and care for needy
 - Seek diligently to provide assistance
 - Will persevere through

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Promise of Appreciation

- When expecting service from others
- Actions and words convey a message
- I will appreciate receiving the service
- I will do my part when needed
- Promise of appreciation motivates others to provide for the need

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Promise of Obedience

- When a person interacts with higher authority
- Such as proposing a choice to the authority
- Actions and words convey a message
- I will obey and accept your decision
- Even if you do not accept my proposal
- Promise of obedience motivates others to consider a subordinate with care

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What We Learned

- After death of Saul, David showed humility by waiting to be made king by the people
- Because the authority of government belongs to the people
- Christ teaching on humility
 - Sermon on the mount (Blessed are the meek)
 - Greatest virtue
 - Humble will be exalted

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