

THE PATHWAY TO HEAVEN IS MARKED BY IT —

# *Strength in Genuine Humility*

**“Humility is an active principle growing out of a thorough consciousness of God’s great love, and will always show itself by the way in which it works.”—5 Bible Commentary, 1139.**

**“The deepest joy of the heart comes from the deepest humiliation.** Trust and submission to God work out strength and nobleness of character. Tears are not in every case evidences of weakness. In order for you to build up a character which is symmetrical in the sight of a pure and holy God you must begin at the foundation. The heart must be broken before God, and true repentance for sin must be shown, till you meet the demands of truth and duty. Then you will have true respect for yourself and true confidence in God. You will have tenderness of feeling.”—3 Testimonies, 459.

**“When you come to Jesus with a broken heart, He will help and bless you, and you will go forth in the Master’s work with courage and energy.** The best evidence that you are in Christ is the fruit you bear. If you are not truly united to Him, your light and privileges will condemn and ruin you.”—5 Testimonies, 348.

**“In the valley of humiliation, where men feel their need and depend on God to guide their steps, there is comparative safety.** But the men who stand, as it were, on a lofty pinnacle, and who, because of their position, are supposed to possess great wisdom—these are in greatest peril. Unless such men make God their dependence, they will surely fall.”—*Ministry of Healing*, 212.

“It is not only at the beginning of the Christian life that this renunciation of self is to be made. At every advance step heavenward it is to be renewed. All our good works are dependent on a power outside of ourselves. Therefore **there needs to be a continual reaching out of the heart after God, a continual, earnest, heartbreaking confession of sin and humbling of the soul before Him.** Only by constant renunciation of self and dependence on Christ can we walk safely.”—*Christ’s Object Lessons*, 159-160.

**“The grace of humility should be cherished by every one who names the name of Christ,** for self-exaltation can find no place in the work of God. Those who would cooperate with the Lord of hosts must daily crucify self, placing worldly ambition in the background. . . **True humility is the evidence that we behold God and that we are in union with Jesus Christ.** Unless we are meek and lowly

we cannot claim that we have any true conception of the character of God. Men may think that they are serving God faithfully; their talents, learning, eloquence, or zeal may dazzle the eye, delight the fancy, and awaken the admiration of those who cannot see beneath the surface, but unless these qualifications are humbly consecrated to God, . . they are regarded by God as unprofitable servants.”—*That I May Know Him*, 122.

“Let ministers and people remember that gospel truth ruins if it does not save. The soul that refuses to listen to the invitations of mercy from day to day can soon listen to the most urgent appeals without an emotion stirring his soul.

“As laborers with God we need more fervent piety and less self-exaltation. **The more self is exalted, the more will faith in the testimonies of the Spirit of God be lessened.** Those who are the most closely connected with God are the ones who know His voice when He speaks to them. Those who are spiritual discern spiritual things. Such will feel grateful that the Lord has pointed out their errors, while those who trust wholly in themselves will see less and less of God in the testimonies of His Spirit.

**“Our work must be accompanied with deep humiliation, fasting, and prayer.** We must not expect all peace and joy. There will be sadness; but if we sow in tears we shall reap in joy. Darkness and despondency may at times enter the heart of the self-sacrificing ones; but this is not against them. It may be God’s design to cause them to seek Him more earnestly.”—5 Testimonies, 134.

“Christian zeal will not act for the sake of being seen. **Humility will characterize every effort and be seen in every work. Christian zeal will lead to earnest prayer and humiliation, and to faithfulness in home duties.** In the family circle will be seen the gentleness and love, benevolence and compassion, which are ever the fruits of Christian zeal.”—2 Testimonies, 233.

**“In the valley of humiliation we can walk securely, while we reverence God and make Him our trust.** On the lofty pinnacle, where praise is heard, where our wisdom and greatness are extolled, we need a special power, a special arm to sustain us.”—*Evangelism*, 561.

**“Carry forward your work in humility. Never rise above the simplicity of the gospel of Christ.** Not in the art of display, but in lifting up Christ, the

sin-pardoning Redeemer, will you find success in winning souls. **As you work for God in humility and lowliness of heart, He will manifest Himself to you.**—9 Testimonies, 142.

“Suffer nothing to divide your interest from your present work until God shall see fit to give you another piece of work in the same field. Seek not for happiness, for it is never to be found by seeking for it. Go about your duty. **Let faithfulness mark all your doings, and be clothed with humility.**”—2 Testimonies, 136.

“**God has been waiting long for His followers to manifest true humility that He may impart rich blessings to them.** Those who offer Him the sacrifice of a broken and contrite spirit will be hidden in the cleft of the rock and will behold the Lamb of God, who taketh away the sins of the world. As Jesus, the Sin Bearer, the all-sufficient Sacrifice, is seen more distinctly, their lips are tuned to the loftiest praise. **The more they see of the character of Christ the more humble they become, and the lower their estimate of themselves. . . Self is lost sight of in their consciousness of their own unworthiness and of God’s wonderful glory. . .** Those who value a holy and happy walk with God, who prize the strength that a knowledge of Him brings; will leave nothing undone if only they may behold God. They will cherish the spirit that trembles at His word, and in every place and under every circumstance they will pray that they may be allowed to see His glory.”—*That I May Know Him*, 122.

“Let the youth take heed to the words of the wise man, ‘Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.’ **Let them walk softly, prayerfully, and carefully before the Lord, in continual dependence upon Him, and at the same time exerting all their powers, improving all their opportunities, trusting to what the Lord can do with their consecrated abilities.** Let them inquire at every step, ‘Is this the way of the Lord?’ **Humility is a characteristic of those who have true wisdom, and no matter what may be their attainments, they will not be self-confident and boastful.**”—*Testimonies on Sabbath School Work*, 52.

“Without faith it is impossible to please God; ‘for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.’ The faith that is required is not a mere assent to doctrines; it is the faith that works by love and purifies the soul. **Humility, meekness, and obedience are not faith; but they are the effects, or fruit, of faith.**”—5 Testimonies, 437-438.

“**Humility and reverence should characterize the deportment of all who come into the presence of God.** In the name of Jesus we may come

before Him with confidence, but we must not approach Him with the boldness of presumption, as though He were on a level with ourselves. There are those who address the great and all-powerful and holy God, who dwelleth in light unapproachable, as they would address an equal, or even an inferior.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, 252.

“In the work for this time, it is not money or talent or learning or eloquence that are needed so much as faith graced with humility. **No opposition can prevail against truth presented in faith and humility, by workers who willingly bear toil and sacrifice and reproach for the Master’s sake.** We must be co-workers with Christ if we would see our efforts crowned with success. We must weep as He wept for those who will not weep for themselves, and plead as He pleaded for those who will not plead for themselves.”—1 *Selected Messages*, 118.

“**Meekness and humility will characterize all who are obedient to the law of God, all who will wear the yoke of Christ with submission.** And these graces will bring the desirable result of peace in the service of Christ.”—5 *Bible Commentary*, 1090.

“**We must day by day humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God. We are to work out our own salvation with fear and with trembling.** While it is God that works in us to will and to do of His own good pleasure, we are to co-operate with Him while He works through us.”—*Christian Service*, 247.

“**Go to God in faith and humility, and ask, and you will receive;** but remember that the disciple is not above his Master nor the servant greater than his Lord. **You need to cherish that humility and humbleness of mind which dwelt in Christ.**”—2 Testimonies, 431.

“**You are safe only as, in perfect submission and obedience, you connect yourselves with Christ.** The yoke is easy, for Christ carries the weight. As you lift the burden of the cross, it will become light; and that cross is to you a pledge of eternal life. It is the privilege of each to follow gladly after Christ, exclaiming at every step, ‘Thy gentleness hath made me great.’ But if we would travel heavenward, we must take the Word of God as our lesson-book. In the words of inspiration we must read our lessons day by day . . .

“**The humiliation of the man Christ Jesus is incomprehensible to the human mind;** but His divinity and His existence before the world was formed can never be doubted by those who believe the Word of God. The apostle Paul speaks of our Mediator, the only begotten Son of God, who in a state of glory was in the form of God, the Commander of all the heavenly hosts, and who, when He clothed His divinity with humanity, took upon Him the form of a servant . . .

## The Strength of Humility

**“In consenting to become man, Christ manifested a humility that is the marvel of the heavenly intelligences.”—*Sons and Daughters of God*, 81.**

“Throughout the Beatitudes there is an advancing line of Christian experience. Those who have felt their need of Christ, **those who have mourned because of sin and have sat with Christ in the school of affliction, will learn meekness from the divine Teacher.**

“Patience and gentleness under wrong were not characteristics prized by the heathen or by the Jews. . . **Jesus places meekness among the first qualifications for His kingdom.** In His own life and character the divine beauty of this precious grace is revealed. . . Through all the lowly experiences of life He consented to pass, walking among the children of men, not as a king, to demand homage, but as one whose mission it was to serve others.”—*Mount of Blessing*, 13-14.

**“Few are willing to follow the Saviour’s example of meekness and humility.”—*5 Testimonies*, 176.**

**“To be great in God’s kingdom is to be a little child in humility, in simplicity of faith, and in the purity of love.** All pride must perish, all jealousy be overcome, all ambition for supremacy be given up, and **the meekness and trust of the child be encouraged. All such will find Christ their rock of defense, their strong tower. In Him they may trust implicitly, and He will never fail them.**”—*5 Testimonies*, 130.

**“Advancement in Christian experience is characterized by increasing humility, as the result of increasing knowledge.** Everyone who is united to Christ will depart from all iniquity. I tell you, in the fear of God, I have been shown that many of you will fail of everlasting life because you are building your hopes of heaven on a false foundation. God is leaving you to yourselves, ‘to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart.’ You have neglected the Scriptures. **You despise and reject the testimonies because they reprove your darling sins and disturb your self-complacency.** When Christ is cherished in the heart, His likeness will be revealed in the life. Humility will reign where pride was once predominant. Submission, meekness, patience, will soften down the rugged features of a naturally perverse, impetuous disposition.”—*5 Testimonies*, 49-50.

**“Nehemiah humbled himself before God, giving Him the glory due unto His name. Thus also did Daniel in Babylon.** Let us study the prayers of these men. **They teach us that we are to humble ourselves,** but that we are never to obliterate the line

of demarcation between God’s commandment-keeping people and those who have no respect for His law.

**“We all need to draw near to God. He will draw near to those who approach Him in humility, filled with a holy awe for His sacred majesty, and standing before Him separate from the world.”—*3 Bible Commentary*, 1136.**

**“Both in public and in private worship it is our privilege to bow on our knees before God when we offer our petitions to Him.** Jesus, our example, ‘kneeled down, and prayed.’ Luke 22:41. Of His disciples it is recorded that they, too, ‘kneeled down, and prayed.’ Acts 9:40. Paul declared, ‘I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.’ Ephesians 3:14. In confessing before God the sins of Israel, Ezra knelt. See Ezra 9:5. Daniel ‘kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God.’ Daniel 6:10.

“The offering that is made to God without a spirit of reverence and gratitude, He does not accept. **It is the humble, grateful, reverential heart that makes the offering as a sweet-smelling savor, acceptable to God.**”—*6 Bible Commentary*, 1118.

**“True reverence for God is inspired by a sense of His infinite greatness and a realization of His presence.** With this sense of the Unseen, every heart should be deeply impressed. The hour and place of prayer are sacred, because God is there. **And as reverence is manifested in attitude and demeanor, the feeling that inspires it will be deepened.** ‘Holy and reverend is His name,’ the psalmist declares. Psalm 111:9. Angels, when they speak that name, veil their faces. With what reverence, then, should we, who are fallen and sinful, take it upon our lips!”—*Prophets and Kings*, 48-49.

**“Advancement in Christian experience is characterized by increasing humility,** as the result of increasing knowledge. Everyone who is united to Christ will depart from all iniquity.”—*5 Testimonies*, 49.

**“The more important one’s position, and the greater his influence, the greater is the necessity that he should cultivate patience and humility.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, 420.**

“The cover of the sacred chest was called the mercy seat. This was wrought of one solid piece of gold, and was surmounted by golden cherubim, one standing on each end. **One wing of each angel was stretched forth on high, while the other was folded over the body** (see Ezekiel 1:11) **in token of reverence and humility.** The position of the cherubim, with their faces turned toward each other, and looking reverently downward toward the ark, represented the reverence with which the heavenly host regard

the law of God and their interest in the plan of redemption.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, 348-349.

“When we give ourselves wholly to God and in our work follow His directions, He makes Himself responsible for its accomplishment. He would not have us conjecture as to the success of our honest endeavors. Not once should we even think of failure. We are to co-operate with One who knows no failure.

**“We should not talk of our own weakness and inability. This is a manifest distrust of God, a denial of His Word.** When we murmur because of our burdens, or refuse the responsibilities He calls upon us to bear, we are virtually saying that He is a hard master, that He requires what He has not given us power to do.

**“The spirit of the slothful servant we are often fain to call humility. But true humility is widely different.** To be clothed with humility does not mean that we are to be dwarfs in intellect, deficient in aspiration, and cowardly in our lives, shunning burdens lest we fail to carry them successfully. **Real humility fulfills God’s purposes by depending upon His strength.**

“God works by whom He will. **He sometimes selects the humblest instrument to do the greatest work,** for His power is revealed through the weakness of men.”—*Christ’s Object Lessons*, 363-364.

“A new order of things has come into the ministry. **There is a desire to pattern after other churches, and simplicity and humility are almost unknown.** The young ministers seek to be original, and to introduce new ideas and new plans for labor. Some open revival meetings, and by this means call large numbers into the church. But, when the excitement is over, where are the converted ones? Repentance and confession of sin are not seen. The sinner is entreated to believe in Christ and accept Him, without regard to his past life of sin and rebellion. **The heart is not broken. There is no contrition of soul. The supposed converted ones have not fallen upon the Rock, Christ Jesus.**”—*2 Selected Messages*, 18-19.

**“To be ignorant is not to be considered a mark of humility,** or something for which men should be praised.”—*Fundamentals of Christian Education*, 369.

“When you speak, let every word be full and well rounded, every sentence clear and distinct to the very last word. Many as they approach the end of a

sentence lower the tone of the voice, speaking so indistinctly that the force of the thought is destroyed. Words that are worth speaking at all are worth speaking in a clear, distinct voice, with emphasis and expression. But never search for words that will give the impression that you are learned. The greater your simplicity, the better will your words be understood.

“Young men and young women, has God placed in your hearts a desire to do service for Him? Then by all means cultivate the voice to the utmost of your ability so that you can make plain the precious truth to others. Do not fall into the habit of praying so indistinctly and in such a low tone that your prayers need an interpreter. Pray simply, but clearly and distinctly. **To let the voice sink so low that it cannot be heard is no evidence of humility.**”—*6 Testimonies*, 383.

“‘Hold fast.’ This does not mean, Hold fast to your sins; but, Hold fast to the comfort, the faith, the hope, that God has given you in His Word. **Never be discouraged. A discouraged man can do nothing.** Satan is seeking to discourage you, telling you it is of no use to serve God, that it does not pay, and that it is just as well to have pleasure and enjoyment in this world. But ‘what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?’ You may have worldly pleasure at the expense of the future world; but can you afford to pay such a price?

“We are to ‘hold fast’ and live up to all the light we receive from heaven. Why? Because God wants us to grasp the eternal truth, and act as His helping hand by communicating the light to those who are not acquainted with His love for them. When you gave yourself to Christ, you made a pledge in the presence of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—the three great personal Dignitaries of heaven. ‘Hold fast’ to this pledge.

“‘And repent.’ **The life we live is to be one of continual repentance and humility. We need to repent constantly, that we may be constantly victorious. When we have true humility, we have victory. The enemy never can take out of the hand of Christ the one who is simply trusting in His promises.** If the soul is trusting and working obediently, the mind is susceptible to divine impressions, and the light of God shines in, enlightening the understanding. **What privileges we have in Christ Jesus!**”—*7 Bible Commentary*, 959.