



THE CONDITION OF THE HEART PART 7 - HUMILITY OF HEART

Matthew 5:3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

To be poor in spirit means to carry a spirit of humility within you, and this spirit of humility is Christ's Spirit in us. Having the spirit of humility within you isn't based on you trying to be humble, or doing acts of service through the flesh that make you look like you are humble. It's not something you put on and off like a coat or an item of clothing, but it is purely a work of God's spirit within you, to produce this poor in spirit attitude.

This is the first attitude within the nine kingdom be-attitudes, which Jesus spoke about in His sermon on the Mount. The first being attitude defines and informs all the other attitudes within this kingdom reality. If we don't have this spirit of humility operating within us then we won't have any of the other spiritual attitudes operating within us, it's that simple.

It's having this poor in spirit of heart that opens up the entirety of His kingdom of heaven life within us.

It's important to note you can be justified by His blood, but still not have this spirit of humility within you, due to the spirit of pride still being alive and well, and actively opposing the work that the Spirit wants to do in you.

The counterfeit version of the spirit of humility is a fleshly humility called false martyrdom. This false martyrdom does works of service in the name of Jesus that appear humble, i.e. washing peoples feet, but the root system of this position is still pride. To the natural undiscerning eye it can look like this person has a heart of humility due to what they are doing, but in reality, everything they are doing is still wrapped up in self gain.

A follower can know if they have a heart of humility through a number of circumstances;

1. When treated like a slave due to their colour, culture, look, or acts of service and kindness, they don't get angry or retaliate but regardless of the treatment they receive



they continue to love that person.

2. They neither need nor look for any kind of acknowledgement for their acts of service and will continue to serve regardless of whether they ever receive acknowledgement or not.
3. They don't need to prove or protect/defend their belief in the God they know and His Truth.
4. They do not feel threatened, scared or nervous when hearing things about God they haven't heard before or that is different to what they know. They carry a hunger and a thirst for Him and are always open to learn and come into a greater depth of truth, seeking the Spirit on what they are hearing.
5. They don't look for their life, worth, meaning, value or purpose in what they do, but in who He says they are.

These are just some of the ways of being able to identify whether you have a heart of humility or not. This gives evidence to how powerful being poor in spirit is.

The next set of Scriptures will give us a good indication of God's posture and position towards those who are humble of heart in accordance with the Spirit and those who aren't.

Psalms 34:18 The Lord is near to the brokenhearted And saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Psalms 138:6 For though the Lord is exalted, Yet He regards the lowly, But the haughty He knows from afar.

Psalms 101:5 Whoever secretly slanders his neighbor, him I will destroy; No one who has a haughty look and an arrogant heart will I endure.



1 Peter 3:8-9 To sum up, all of you be harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly, kindhearted, and humble in spirit; not returning evil for evil or insult for insult, but giving a blessing instead; for you were called for the very purpose that you might inherit a blessing.

Psalms 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; A broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.

Who are those the Father is close to?
Who are those He knows from afar?

These are big questions for us to grapple with in relation to the true condition of our hearts. Never mind anyone else, what is the true spiritual condition of our own heart?

If you say you are poor in spirit and humble of heart do you identify, and have the evidence of some or all of the five things listed above operating within your life?

As mentioned before there are nine beatitudes mentioned in Matthew 5 and each be-attitude has a promise associated with it. If we don't have the first beatitude as our true heart position then we won't have the blessing that comes with it. If we don't have the first be-attitude, and its blessing, we will never know the reality of the other eight and our lives will be the evidence of this.

Your life doesn't lie. God has so much abundant, eternal life for us to come into within us, and it all starts with having a nature which is poor in spirit, a heart of spiritual humility.

QUESTIONS

1. How does one receive and come to know now this spirit of humility when one starts proud of heart?
2. Who are those the Father is close to and why?
3. Who are those He knows from afar and why?



4. What is your life telling you about your true state of heart and what do you sense He is saying to you about this?

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