

Godliness and Humility

I. Godliness (listed with other fruit in 1 Tim.6:11) = *eusebeia* (lit. “well-devout,” from *eu* = “well” and *sebomai* = “to be devout”) and *theosebeia* (“the fear or reverence of God”)

“denotes that piety which, characterized by a Godward attitude, does that which is well-pleasing to Him” (Vine)

“Godliness or the whole of true religion, so named because piety toward God is the foundation and principal part of it...It has the general sense of a pious life or a life which is morally good” (Zodhiates)

“Theocentric” = God-centered

A. Holy conduct 2 Pet.3:11/1 Tim.2:9-10

B. Fear of God (reverence) Heb.12:28/2 Cor.7:1/Eph.5:21/Phil.2:12f/1 Pet.1:17; 3:2,14f

C. Dignity 1 Tim.2:2/3:4

D. Prayerfulness/Thankfulness I Thes.5:17-18/Phil.4:6/Phil.1:3-4/Eph.1:15-16/Col.1:3

E. Zeal for God John 2:17/Rom.10:2/Acts 22:3/Titus 2:14

II. Humility

Adjective (“humble”) = *tapeinos*

low-lying, of low degree, brought low: Luke 1:52/Rom.12:16/2 Cor.7:6/Jas.1:9

humble in spirit: Matt.11:29/2 Cor.10:1/Jas.4:6/1 Pet.5:5

Noun (“humility, humbleness of mind”) = *tapeinophrosune*

Acts 20:19/Eph.4:2/Phil.2:3/Col.3:12/1 Pet.5:5/(false humility) Col.2:18,23

A. God’s humility (Ps.113:6/138:6/Phil.2:5ff)

B. Self-deception vs Reality

1. Pride is self-deception Rom.12:3/Gal.6:3/II Cor.10:12

2. False humility Col.2:18,23/Isa.7:11-12

3. True humility a result of one’s vision of God Isa.6:5/Job 42:5-6/Ps.8:3-4

a. Relation to the fear of God Pr.8:13/15:33/22:4/Isa.66:2

b. Brokenness Isa.57:15/Ezek.36:26-27, 31/Ex.3:11 vs. 5:2

c. Prayerfulness II Chron.7:14

C. Putting-on humility Col.3:12/1 Pet.5:5

1. Realistic self-appraisal 2 Cor.12:11

2. Mortification of “self-love”

a. Avoid self-promotion: (boasting, name-dropping, social-climbing-Rom.12:16/Luke 14:7-14)

b. Lifestyle choices

I. Financial humility 1 Tim.6:17ff

II. Adornment Isa.3:16-26/Luke 20:46/1 Tim.2:9-10/1 Pet.3:3-4

c. Be the servant of all Phil.2:5ff

I. Not self-congratulating Luke 17:10

II. Quiet and content Ps.131:1-2

III. Submissive 1 Pet.5:5

d. Walk in light 1 John 1: 6-10/Jas.5:16 (Eph.5:13)