

Repentance; Our heart and reins

Lesson 5

Psa 44:20 If we have forgotten the name of our God, or stretched out our hands to a strange god;

Psa 44:21 Shall not God search this out? for he knoweth the secrets of the heart.

Ecc 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this *is* the whole *duty* of man.

Ecc 12:14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether *it be* good, or whether *it be* evil.

Psa 26:1 Judge me, O LORD; for I have walked in mine integrity: ***I have trusted also in the LORD; therefore I shall not slide.***

Psa 26:2 Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; ***try my reins and my heart.***

We will all stand before God on judgment day. We must be ready. The only way to be ready is if God tries our heart and reins. These are the things that ultimately dictate the rest of our life.

Reins and heart

In Scripture, the inward parts; the inner most part of man, or seat of the affections and passions.

Which way are we pulled in the rough times will depend on what our reins and heart are. We must be tried in these areas if we are going to be pure before God. We must have purity on the inside if we are going to make it through the storms of life without turning aside.

Psa 7:8 The LORD shall judge the people: judge me, O LORD, according to my righteousness, and according to mine integrity *that is* in me.

Psa 7:9 Oh let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end; but establish the just: for the righteous God trieth the hearts and reins.

Psa 7:10 My defence *is* of God, which saveth the upright in heart.

Psa 7:11 God judgeth the righteous, and God is angry *with the wicked* every day.

Psa 66:8 O bless our God, ye people, and make the voice of his praise to be heard:

Psa 66:9 Which holdeth our soul in life, and suffereth not our feet to be moved.

Psa 66:10 For thou, O God, hast proved us: thou hast tried us, as silver is tried.

Psa 66:11 Thou broughtest us into the net; thou laidst affliction upon our loins.

Psa 66:12 Thou hast caused men to ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water: but thou broughtest us out into a wealthy *place*.

Psa 66:13 I will go into thy house with burnt offerings: I will pay thee my vows,

Psa 66:14 Which my lips have uttered, and my mouth hath spoken, when I was in trouble.

Psa 66:15 I will offer unto thee burnt sacrifices of fatlings, with the incense of rams; I will offer bullocks with goats. Selah.

Psa 66:16 Come *and* hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul.

Psa 66:17 I cried unto him with my mouth, and he was extolled with my tongue.

Psa 66:18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear *me*:

Psa 66:19 *But* verily God hath heard *me*; he hath attended to the voice of my prayer.

Psa 66:20 Blessed *be* God, which hath not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me.

Pro 20:6 Most men will proclaim every one his own goodness: but a faithful man who can find?

Pro 20:7 The just *man* walketh in his integrity: his children *are* blessed after him.

The Beattitudes

These teach us how our attitudes ought to be! If we can learn these attitudes and live by them, we will be pleasing to God.

Mat 5:1 And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:

Mat 5:2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,

Mat 5:3 Blessed *are* the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Mat 5:4 Blessed *are* they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

Mat 5:5 Blessed *are* the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

- Mat 5:6 Blessed *are* they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
- Mat 5:7 Blessed *are* the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.
- Mat 5:8 Blessed *are* the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
- Mat 5:9 Blessed *are* the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.
- Mat 5:10 Blessed *are* they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- Mat 5:11 Blessed are ye, when *men* shall revile you, and persecute *you*, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.
- Mat 5:12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great *is* your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.
- Mat 5:13 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.
- Mat 5:14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.
- Mat 5:15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.
- Mat 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

What we see in these beatitudes is the true nature of Christianity. Jesus taught us how to live in order to be blessed but He was also showing us how the blessed will live! He knew that it is impossible for anyone to live up to these standards of living....on their own. But if a man could be born again and live according to His might and power, this is what you would see. These attributes are what the Spirit will produce...

Zec 4:6 ...Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

Joh 3:3 Jesus answered and said unto him, **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.**

Joh 3:4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

Joh 3:5 Jesus answered, *Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.*

Joh 3:6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Joh 3:7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

Joh 3:8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

2Co 5:17 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

1. **Poor in spirit- Mat 5:3** *Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

This means to be humble! It means to acknowledge you are in need, that you cannot make it on your own. (**Prov. 30:24-28** You are like the ant that stores always for the winter, the coney that depends on the Rock for his life, the locust that falls into place without being told and the spider that is diligent with her hands!)

Humility

1. freedom from pride and arrogance; humbleness of mind; a modest estimate of one's own worth. In theology, humility consists in lowliness of mind; a deep sense of one's own unworthiness in the sight of God, self-abasement, penitence for sin, and ***submission to the divine will.***

Pro 15:33 The fear of the LORD *is* the instruction of wisdom; and before honour *is* humility.

Pride

1. Inordinate self-esteem; an unreasonable conceit of one's own superiority in talents, beauty, wealth, accomplishments, rank or elevation in office, which manifests itself in ***lofty airs, distance, reserve,*** and often in ***contempt of others.*** All pride is worthless and mean.

2. Insolence; rude treatment of others.

3. Elevation; loftiness.

4. Splendid show; ostentation.

5. That of which men are proud; that which excites boasting.

Pro 16:18 Pride *goeth* before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

The following is a story of pride and humility and the outlook of each.

- **Luk 18:10** Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.

Luk 18:11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men *are*, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. (Notice his high esteem of himself and his looking down on others.)

Luk 18:12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.

Luk 18:13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as *his* eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.

Luk 18:14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

Luk 18:15 And they brought unto him also infants, that he would touch them: but when *his* disciples saw *it*, they rebuked them.

Luk 18:16 But Jesus called them *unto him*, and said, Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.

Luk 18:17 Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein.

- **Pro 16:19** Better *it is to be* of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud.

We must not think too much of ourselves...

- **Rom 12:3** For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

God dwells with the humble....

- **Isa 57:15** For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name *is* Holy; I dwell in the high and holy *place*, with him also *that is* of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble...
Humility is the key to overcoming the devil!

- **Jas 4:6** But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.
Jas 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.
Jas 4:8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse *your* hands, *ye* sinners; and purify *your* hearts, *ye* double minded.
Jas 4:9 Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and *your* joy to heaviness.
Jas 4:10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

Humility is a way of life for the child of God!

- **1Pe 5:5** Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all *of you* be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.
1Pe 5:6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:
1Pe 5:7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.
- **Pro 16:18** Pride *goeth* before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.
- **Pro 29:23** A man's pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit.
The path of the proud will always lead downward, away from God, away from the Word, away from the church, away from the pastor, away from the blessings, away from one's family, away from friends... toward the world, toward sin, toward poverty, toward hell...and by contrast...
- **Pro 4:18** But the path of the just *is* as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.
Pro 4:19 The way of the wicked *is* as darkness: they know not at what they stumble.

- **Pro 18:12** Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, and before honour *is* humility.

To be haughty is to be overconfident in yourself or in what you know. It is to be un-teachable and stubborn. Haughtiness is pride

mingled with contempt. Pride is having a high opinion of one's own self and contempt is having a low opinion of others. It is being confident about one's own opinion and arrogant about the perceived wrong of others. Pride is quick to judge without mercy!!! Pride is the enemy of our soul! When pride enters in, it cuts off our hearing of the Word. When one thinks too highly of himself, he cuts himself off from the Word!!! And his pastor, the body of Christ and God's blessings. To be proud is to be independent, not recognizing one's own inadequacies....it is to think that one can stand on his own.

1Co 10:12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

To be poor in spirit is not forward, or assuming but is quick to listen, slow to speak, understanding, and merciful, is faithful in prayer, church, giving, and work because there is a dependence on God. This person is always realizing where their blessings come from!

One who is poor in spirit is patient, not quick to judge others or the ministry.

Ecc 5:1 Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear, than to give the sacrifice of fools: for they consider not that they do evil.

Ecc 5:2 Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter *any* thing before God: for God *is* in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few.

Ecc 5:3 For a dream cometh through the multitude of business; and a fool's voice *is known* by multitude of words.

Watch what happens when one gets proud and arrogant about himself. Also notice how quickly God responds to humility.

Dan 4:29 At the end of twelve months he walked in the palace of the kingdom of Babylon.

Dan 4:30 The king spake, and said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty?

Dan 4:31 While the word *was* in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, *saying*, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee.

Dan 4:32 And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling *shall be* with the beasts of the field: they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and seven times shall pass over thee, until thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.

Dan 4:33 The same hour was the thing fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar: and he was driven from men, and did eat grass as oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till his hairs were grown like eagles' *feathers*, and his nails like birds' *claws*.

Dan 4:34 And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth for ever, whose dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom *is* from generation to generation:

Dan 4:35 And all the inhabitants of the earth *are* reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and *among* the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

Dan 4:36 At the same time my reason returned unto me; and for the glory of my kingdom, mine honour and brightness returned unto me; and my counsellors and my lords sought unto me; and I was established in my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added unto me.

Dan 4:37 Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works *are* truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase.

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Conclusion: God will give a second chance to the humble!

2Ki 20:1 In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz came to him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live.

2Ki 20:2 Then he turned his face to the wall, and prayed unto the LORD, saying,

2Ki 20:3 I beseech thee, O LORD, remember now how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done *that which is* good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore.

2Ki 20:4 And it came to pass, afore Isaiah was gone out into the middle court, that the word of the LORD came to him, saying,

2Ki 20:5 Turn again, and tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the LORD.

2Ki 20:6 And I will add unto thy days fifteen years; and I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake.