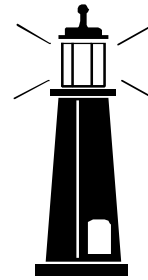


The Berryville church of Christ

# Bible Beacon

"Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." (Psalm 119:105)



Volume 2, Issue 25

June 29th, 2003

## Humility

Kevin Cauley

It has been said that humility is one of those things that if you claim you have it, you don't! There is something to be said concerning this statement. Humility is one of those characteristics that you have in your life that is better shown than stated. It is also something that is desired by all, but obtained by few. Why is this? Likely because so few people recognize true humility when they see it. True humility is not glamorized in the world, it is pummeled. Television and Movies glamorize the action hero that does everything by his own plans and with his own hands. Frank Sinatra proudly sang, "I did it my way." The world values such things, but we as Christians need to have a different mind set (2 Corinthians 6:17). So what are some of the qualities of humility? Let's look at a few together.

Humility means submitting to God's will first. James writes, "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up" (4:10). Humility starts first with our relationship with God. Many forces will try to sway us away from God's will in our lives. However, making the humble choice will always begin with God. God is ever present with us and the choices in our life should reflect the awareness of that presence. When we make choices that don't glorify God, then we are glorifying self and that is not humility at all, but pride. In the long ago the prophet wrote, "He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee? But to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God" (Micah 6:8).

Humility often means having to submit to someone else's wisdom when we really do not want to do that. I am not referring to choosing to sin or something like that. Choosing to sin would not be humbling oneself before God. I am referring to choices that do not necessarily involve sin, but may lead to sin if we make that choice. How

late should I stay up Saturday night so as not to affect my worship Sunday morning? What friends should I choose to hang out with? Should I go to Cancun on vacation or somewhere with my parents? These are obviously not the only choices, but they are illustrative of what I am discussing. Many times others will have the best answers to such questions. We need to rely upon their wisdom in this regard. Peter writes, "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" (1 Peter 5:5).



Humility means elevating others above yourself. In Philippians 2:3, 4 we read, "Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others." When we esteem others better than self, we practice humility. To esteem someone means that we value them more highly than we would value ourselves. Sometimes this means placing their opinion above our own. It may also mean submitting to another's judgment regarding our behavior until we have had more time to think things through. This also means taking care of each other through service one to another. The example in this passage is Jesus. He died on the cross for our sins. He did not have to do that for us, but He did because He loved us. Submitting to one another in humility is as much an act of love as anything.

Humility sometimes means having to suffer for someone else's mistakes. In 1 Peter 4:16, Peter writes, "Yet if *any man suffer* as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf." Peter was not talking about suffering as a result of justice (verse 15) but suffering unjustly. When we suffer unjustly because we are living the life that Christ wants us to live, then

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we are acting humbly. We may not deserve some of the things that we have to endure, but we should endure them nonetheless because we are doing so for Christ. Jesus certainly did not deserve the things that He suffered, but he endured them for our sakes. He humbled himself for us that we might have eternal life. Can we humble ourselves for Him that we and others might have the same opportunity?

The practice of humility in our life requires a certain amount of wisdom. We must first humble ourselves before God and then humble ourselves before our fellow man. When we have such an attitude, then God is pleased with the choices and decisions that result from such an attitude. "Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you" (1 Peter 5:6, 7).

## A Demon On A Bridge

Charles Box

Late one afternoon I was traveling a road I have ridden over many times during the past thirty-five years. Most of those trips have been pleasant. But, on that afternoon I saw something horrifying. I saw a demon on a bridge!

As I drove down a hill which I have both jogged and driven up and down many times I saw a demon on a bridge. It was a sad and heart breaking sight.

The bridge is over a beautiful little, boulder filled creek. On one side of the bridge is the "Circle B Ranch." Whoever named this little spot has a wonderful sense of humor. The "Circle B Ranch" is a mobile home with a very nice porch. There are no more than two acres of open pasture. There is also some woodland inside the fence. On the "Circle B" there are two dogs, about six calves and maybe a dozen goats. Just beyond the "Circle B Ranch" I saw a demon on a bridge. It was a sickening sight.

Approaching the bridge I saw a car which had obviously just crossed the bridge. It was stopped. Two women were standing on the bridge looking at the damage done by the demon. In addition to those two women there was a man on the bridge. He was lying on the pavement near the center of the bridge. Sadly, he was totally under the control of this demon.

My first thought was that the man had been hit by the car, possibly driven by one of those

women. Instead, I found out something far worse. The man on the bridge was under the control of a horrible demon.

One of the women was, indeed, the driver of the car. She had just stopped to assist the second woman. The second woman was the wife of the demon possessed man. Her heart was breaking. Her eyes were filled with tears because of the havoc brought to her husband and family by this terrible demon. As I tried to assist the demon possessed man tried to hit me with his fist. This demon had the man completely.

Solomon described the problem in Proverbs 23:29-35. "Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has contentions? Who has complaints? Who has wounds without cause? Who has redness of eyes? Those who linger long at the wine, Those who go in search of mixed wine. Do not look on the wine when it is red, When it sparkles in the cup, When it swirls around smoothly; At the last it bites like a serpent, And stings like a viper. Your eyes will see strange things, And your heart will utter perverse things. Yes, you will be like one who lies down in the midst of the sea, Or like one who lies at the top of the mast, saying: They have struck me, but I was not hurt; They have beaten me, but I did not feel it. When shall I awake, that I may seek another drink?"

**This demon causes woes and sorrows.** Solomon said, "Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has contentions? Who has complaints? Who has wounds without cause? Who has redness of eyes? Those who linger long at the wine, Those who go in search of mixed wine." (Proverbs 23:29-30.) There is the woe of many physical consequences. Drunkenness causes liver disease, kills brain cells, weakens the heart and leads to an early grave. While under the power of alcohol the person is mentally deranged. This demon brings a man and his family to crumbs and rags. Drunkenness has many evil companions: (1) sexual sins, (2) lies,

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**Deacons:** Ken Smith, Brent Stevens, Rusty Windle.

**Preacher:** Kevin Cauley 870-423-6707

### Times of Worship and Study

Sunday Morning Bible Class:.....9:30 AM

Sunday Morning Worship:.....10:30 AM

Sunday Evening Worship: .....6:00 PM

Ladies Bible Class:.....10:30 AM

Wed. Evening Bible Class:.....7:00 PM

(3) wrath and many others. Those under the power of this demon are unreliable and ready to fight even their best friend.

**This demon has a wicked bite and sting.** Solomon said, "At the last it bites like a serpent, And stings like a viper." (Proverbs 23:32.) Alcohol is an addictive drug, very dangerous and habit forming. It destroys self-control, ruins health and corrupts character. It enslaves multiplied millions. Alcohol weakens and profanes our body which is the temple of the Holy Spirit. "Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's." (I Corinthians 6:19-20.) Being possessed by this demon is both costly and harmful. It bites and stings physically, economically, mentally, morally, socially, and especially spiritually.

**This demon causes eyes to see strange things and hearts to utter perverseness.** Solomon said, "Your eyes will see strange things, And your heart will utter perverse things." (Proverbs 23:33.) As I was trying to help the woman get her husband off the bridge and back in their house he was speaking all kind of nonsense and he even took a swing at me. His eyes were seeing staring things. His heart was full of perverse things. No words can describe the deplorable condition of those under the control of this demon.

**This demon causes one to feel as if he was lying in the midst of the sea.** Solomon wrote, "Yes, you will be like one who lies down in the midst of the sea, Or like one who lies at the top of the mast, saying." (Proverbs 23:34.) Those

controlled by this demon go back and forth, unable to control themselves. In a physical sense they do lie down in dangerous places. This demon possessed man was in the middle of a bridge on a paved road. Alcoholic beverages are brewed in hell, sold out of covetousness and consumed in sin and much misery. This demon has damned and destroyed many precious souls.

**This demon so controls that a person seeks it again.** Some of the saddest words of this text say, "They have struck me, but I was not hurt; They have beaten me, but I did not feel it. When shall I awake, that I may seek another drink?" (Proverbs 23:35.) I found out that the demon possessed man lived two houses up from the bridge. A few weeks had passed by and I saw the man again under the control of the demon. He was in his own yard, laying prostrate on a bank. You could tell the demon was controlling him. No other practice in history has wrecked more homes and ruined more good people than this demon. A Christian can have nothing to do with alcoholic beverages.

Drunkards will not inherit the kingdom of God. (I Corinthians 6:10.) Drunkenness is a work of the flesh. (Galatians 5:21.) Paul warned, "And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit." (Ephesians 5:18.) Whoever delivers his soul over to the power of alcohol is responsible for the result. "Wine is a mocker, Strong drink is a brawler, And whoever is led astray by it is not wise." (Proverbs 20:1.) The strong are those who resist this demon. "For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation." (I Thessalonians 5:7-8.)

## Sunday's Sermons

For June 29th

Morning ..... TBA  
 Scripture..... TBA  
 Evening..... TBA  
 Scripture..... TBA

## Our Record

Week of June 22nd

Sunday Class .....	47
Sunday A.M. ....	66
Sunday P.M. ....	50
Wednesday .....	41
Contribution .....	\$1607.00
Budget.....	\$1760.00

## News, Notes and Prayer List



- Please remember the following in your prayers: Wayne Henderson, Carol Sayles, Gary Scheller.

- We extend our sympathy to the family of Oleta Widener. Oleta passed away last week. The services were in Harrison this past Monday. Oleta was a wonderful woman whom it was a pleasure to know.

- We also extend our sympathy to the Windle family in the passing of Rusty's grandfather.
- Let's remember all of those who are traveling in our prayers during the vacationing season.
- Edith Mischler is in the nursing home in Eureka Springs.
- Art Roberts and Mary Patterson are confined to their homes.
- Our youth rally is coming VERY soon. August 22nd and 23rd are the dates set for that event. Let's start planning and making this happen!
- Information for Green Valley Bible Camp is on the back bulletin board. Some of our youth will be going during the same week that Casseville is hosing the camp. Please check the bulletin board for further information.
- Our youth devotional and July 4th fellowship will be next Sunday night at the Williams! This is a great annual event that everyone enjoys. Let's all make our plans to be there!
- Our fifth Sunday singing at the nursing home is today! Let's all plan on attending and singing.
- Next month's assignments are: Announcements, Bill Fort; Worship Coordinator, Glenn Quigley; Carry Communion, Hugh Atchley, Kevin Cauley; Prepare Communion, Wanda Bozarth, Joann Bragg.
- The Pantry Item for this week is Coffee.



## Men to Serve

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
<b>Sunday Morning:</b>	<b>June 29th, 2003</b>	<b>July 6th, 2003</b>
<b>Song Leader:</b>	Bill Fort	Bill Fort
<b>Preacher:</b>	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Rusty Windle	Clay Bozarth
<b>Scripture:</b>	Sandy Nieves	Brent Moore
<b>Lord's Table:</b>	Glenn Quigley	Ken Smith
	Brent Moore	Rusty Windle
<b>(assist)</b>	Raymond Kimes	Sandy Nieves
	Perry Foster	Leon Duncan
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	George Eddings	Glenn Williams
<b>Sunday Night:</b>		
<b>Songs:</b>	Larry Elliott	Brent Stevens
<b>Preacher:</b>	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Ray Duncan	Bob Moore
<b>Scripture:</b>	Brent Moore	Matt Bassing
<b>Lord's Table:</b>	Brandon Foster	George Eddings
	Dale Pinkley	Rusty Windle
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Bob Moore	Glenn Quigley
<b>Wednesday</b>		
<b>Songs:</b>	Glenn Williams	Hugh Atchley
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Hugh Atchley	Glenn Williams
<b>Invitation:</b>	Larry Elliott	Bob Moore
<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	Brent Stevens	Bill Fort
<b>Monthly Assignments</b>		
<b>Announcements</b>	Leon Duncan	
<b>Worship Coordinator</b>	Glenn Williams	
<b>Communion Prep</b>	Neva Welch	Donna Henderson
<b>Communion Carry</b>	Dale Pinkley	Clay Bozarth

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