

Sermon Notes
June 18, 2017
James 4:13-17

Numbers 12:3 NIV

3 (Now Moses was a very humble man, more humble than anyone else on the face of the earth.)

What does true, Biblical, humility, look like?

vv. 11-12: Don't judge

vv. 13-15: Admit you're not in control

vv. 16-17: Start doing, stop talking

1 Corinthians 5:9-10 NLT

9 When I wrote to you before, I told you not to associate with people who indulge in sexual sin. 10 But I wasn't talking about unbelievers who indulge in sexual sin, or are greedy, or cheat people, or worship idols. You would have to leave this world to avoid people like that.

1 Corinthians 5:12 NLT

12 It isn't my responsibility to judge outsiders, but it certainly is your responsibility to judge those inside the church who are sinning.

Galatians 6:1 ESV

1 Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.

Before speaking, the humble:

1. Consider to whom they're speaking
2. Consider why they're speaking

Matthew 18:15 ESV

15 "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother.

Questions to consider:

Have I given myself the benefit of the doubt, but refused it to my brother or sister?

Have I made excuses for my shortcomings, but remained intolerant of others?

Have I judged my brothers and sisters according to the letter of the law while expecting grace for myself?

The merchants James describes believed they were in control of:

1. When
2. Where
3. How Long
4. What

A "practical atheist":

- has an intense focus on future planning

- responds to success with personal pride

Does your planning for the future leave God out?

- Is retirement your time to enjoy the fruits of our labors?

- Do you see work and careers as ways to make money in order to buy what you want

- Do you define money as a symbol of independence

- Do you make practical decisions about education, job changes, moving, investments, and spending—all without prayer

"The most dangerous moments in life occur when a plan we have engineered succeeds. That moment of satisfaction can more easily become pride than it can become humility."

Daniel 4:30-35 ESV

30 and the king answered and said, "Is not this great Babylon, which I have built by my mighty power as a royal residence and for the glory of my majesty?" 31 While the words were still in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, "O King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken: The kingdom has departed from you, 32 and you shall be driven from among men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field. And you shall be made to eat grass like an ox, and seven periods of time shall pass over you, until you know that the Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom he will." 33 Immediately the word was fulfilled against Nebuchadnezzar. He was driven from among men and ate grass like an ox, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven till his hair grew as long as eagles' feathers, and his nails were like birds' claws. 34 At the end of the days I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High, and praised and honored him who lives forever, for his dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom endures from generation to generation; 35 all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, "What have you done?"

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 ESV

19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

LIMITED

I AM riding on a limited express, one of the crack trains
of the nation.

Hurling across the prairie into blue haze and dark air
go fifteen all-steel coaches holding a thousand people.

(All the coaches shall be scrap and rust and all the men
and women laughing in the diners and sleepers shall
pass to ashes.)

I ask a man in the smoker where he is going and he
answers: "Omaha."

Carl Sandburg

1 Corinthians 16:7 ESV

7 For I do not want to see you now just in passing. I hope to spend some time with you, if the Lord permits.

The humble:

Make plans, but hold them loosely

Accept success as a gift from God

Matthew 25:45 ESV

45 Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.'

Romans 12:6 ESV

6 Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith;

1 Peter 4:10 ESV

10 As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace:

"The men who had received five and two talents respectively took risks; they applied themselves actively in their responsibility. But the unfaithful servant thought only of himself and his security, risked nothing, and achieved nothing."

The humble:

Accepts abilities as a gift from God and uses them to benefit others