

HUMBLING OURSELVES

JANUARY 27, 2016

PS. 35:13 – David knew that fasting was a means chosen by God for us to humble ourselves before Him. He also understood that fasting was a way to overcome pride. The primary purpose of fasting is to overcome pride.

1. Pride is detestable to God. PR. 8:13

A. Pride is evil, satanic and offensive to God. It exalts our will above the will and way of God. It says “I can do it on my own.”

2. Pride is destructive to man. PR. 16:18

A. It can lead to captivity. **JER. 13:17 (NIV)**

B. It deceives. **JER. 49:16a (NIV)**

3. Pride and gluttony are companions.

A. EZEKIEL 16:49 (NLT) – Homosexuality wasn’t the only sin in Sodom.

B. DEUT. 8:11-14 (NIV) – A full stomach can lead to pride.

C. HOSEA 13:6 (NLT) – They ate, were satisfied and became proud.

4. Humbling ourselves is our responsibility.

A. MT.18:4, 23:12 These three witnesses confirm that it’s

B. JAMES 4:10 our responsibility to humble ourselves

C. 1 PET. 5:5-6 before God.

5. The Ezra fast. EZRA 8:21-27 (NLT)

A. Ezra was leading the Jews back to Jerusalem. The trip was 900 miles of dangerous terrain. They had over 4 million dollars with them. Aprox. 154 million today!

B. Ezra had two alternatives.

- Ask for mans help.
- Ask God for divine intervention.

C. Ezra called for a fast and looked to God for direction.

- Asa should have done the same –

2 CHRON. 14:9-12 (NLT), 16:7-13 (NLT)