Humility

A tapestry of reflections, prayers, scripture, and recorded new hymns for public worship and personal devotions

> from the series: Fresh Views of Timeless Truths

> > Ken Bible

LNWhymns.COM

Copyright © 2020 by Ken Bible, LNW@LNWhymns.com

Scripture quotations marked (NASB) are from the *New American Standard Bible*® (NASB), © copyright The Lockman Foundation 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995. Used by permission.

Scripture quotations marked (NIV) are from the *Holy Bible, New International Version*® (NIV®). Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica. All rights reserved worldwide. Used by permission.

For more hymns by Ken Bible, visit LNWhymns.com

For more in the "Fresh Views of Timeless Truth" series, as well as free books, and to subscribe to Ken's free blog, *Nurturing Your Creativity & Your Life in Christ*, visit **KenBible.com**

Contents

Scripture, Reflections, Prayers, and Hymns

Psalm	113 Reflection on Psalm 113 <i>Psalm 113</i>	4 5 6
Psalm	131 Reflection on Psalm 131 <i>Psalm 131</i>	8 9 10
Psalm	123:1-2a Have Mercy <i>Have Mercy</i>	12 13 14
Scriptu	ures on God's Love for the Humble Unearned Love So Unworthy	15 16 17
Scriptu	ures on Pride Pride <i>Pride</i>	18 19 20
Scriptu	ures on Holy Pride Holy Pride <i>Isn't He Good?</i>	21 22 23
Psalm	73 Reflection on Psalm 73 <i>Psalm 73</i>	24 26 27
Scriptu	ures on the Blessings of Humility Blessed Are the Meek <i>Meekness</i>	28 29 31
John 1	3:4-5, 12-16 Foot Washing <i>Here at Your Feet, Lord</i>	32 33 34
Scriptu	ures on Humility toward Others Humility <i>Clothe Me in Humility</i>	35 36 37

Psalm 113

(NASB)

Praise the Lord! Praise, O servants of the Lord, Praise the name of the Lord. Blessed be the name of the Lord From this time forth and forever. From the rising of the sun to its setting The name of the Lord is to be praised. The Lord is high above all nations; His glory is above the heavens.

Who is like the Lord our God, Who is enthroned on high, Who humbles Himself to behold The things that are in heaven and in the earth? He raises the poor from the dust And lifts the needy from the ash heap, To make them sit with princes, With the princes of His people. He makes the barren woman abide in the house As a joyful mother of children. Praise the Lord!

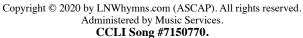
Reflection on Psalm 113

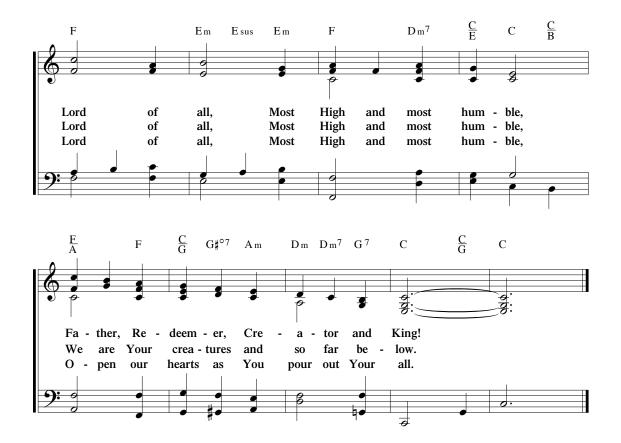
Father, the gulf between us is not primarily one of physical distance. You are "higher" than us in the character, the quality, the excellence of Your very being. You are infinitely greater than us almighty, all-knowing, eternal, and holy. You are pure love. In all these ways and more, we are so far below You. You are without any need, We are constantly, completely dependent. Yet You, the Most High, humble Yourself, not just to reach down to our world, but to reach all the way down to the neediest among us. Your loving heart yearns for the weakest, the smallest, the overlooked. the honor-less, the lonely, the lost.

That is why You came among us. And that is why You are here right now.

Hymn recording: Psalm 113







Psalm 131

(NASB)

O Lord, my heart is not proud, nor my eyes haughty; Nor do I involve myself in great matters, Or in things too difficult for me. Surely I have composed and quieted my soul; Like a weaned child rests against his mother, My soul is like a weaned child within me.

O Israel, hope in the Lord From this time forth and forever.

Reflection on Psalm 131

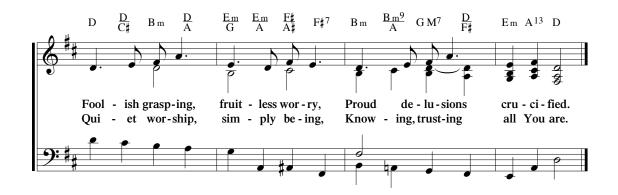
Father, You are All-in-all. I am need. You are self-contained, self-sufficient, always overflowing, always freely giving. I am inherently, totally dependent. You created me for constant, complete dependence on You. You designed me for constant, complete relationship with You. You destined me for constant, complete fullness in You. So, my Father, seeing You for all You are and myself for all I am not, I set aside my self-importance, my futile struggles, my frantic grasping, my fruitless ambition. I welcome humility. I embrace contentment. I breathe the simplicity of childlike trust. I come to You like a weaned infant not scrambling to satisfy my own desires, but quietly resting in You.

Hymn recording: Psalm 131



Administered by Music Services.

CCLI Song #7130701. For CCLI information call 1-800-234-2446.



Psalm 123:1-3a

I lift up my eyes to you, to you who sit enthroned in heaven.As the eyes of slaves look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a female slave look to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, till he shows us his mercy.

Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy on us.

Have Mercy

Father God, our lives are plagued by trouble. We are showered with the violence and arrogance all around us. We are humbled by the selfishness and complacency of our own hearts. Have mercy on us. Our wives, our husbands, our children are in need. Our communities are row after row of houses filled with broken families and hurting people. Many are desperate, plummeting through despair. Our work places are dark, crying out for the light of Your guidance, hope and love.

Father, we lift our eyes to You and wait. Our hope is You alone.

Hymn recording: <u>Have Mercy</u>

Have Mercy Psalm 123



Copyright © 2002 by LNWhymns.com (ASCAP). All rights reserved. Administered by Music Services. CCLI Song #3918438. For CCLI information call 1-800-234-2446.

Scriptures on God's Love for the Humble

Though the Lord is exalted, Yet He regards the lowly. (Psalm 138:6, NASB)

For thus says the high and exalted One Who lives forever, whose name is Holy, "I dwell on a high and holy place, And also with the contrite and lowly of spirit In order to revive the spirit of the lowly And to revive the heart of the contrite. (Isaiah 57:15, NASB)

"But the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, the sinner!' I tell you, this man went to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted." (Luke 18:13-14, NASB)

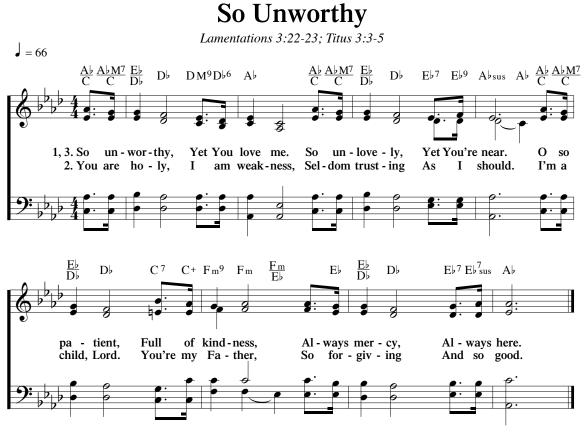
"God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble." Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you. (James 4:6, 10, NASB)

Unearned Love

Father, I cannot earn Your love for me. I am unworthy. I don't deserve Your deep, tender affection for me. You love me, not because I am lovely, but because You are loving. You are not repulsed by my ignorance, my immaturity, or my imperfections. You are my Father, and I am only a child. I have not earned Your love. You love me because of who You made me to be, because of who You long for me to be, because of who I am to You. But Lord, because You love me, I want to be lovely as You are lovely. Because You love me, I want to be more like You. Because You are so near to me, I want to be pure and pleasing to You.

O Father, may Your love draw me closer and closer to You!

Hymn recording: So Unworthy



WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

SO UNWORTHY 4.4.4.3.D.

Copyright © 2002 by LNWhymns.com (ASCAP). All rights reserved. Administered by Music Services. CCLI Song #3696949. For CCLI information call 1-800-234-2446.

Scriptures on Pride

"Whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave." (Matthew 20:26-27, NASB)

"Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled; and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted." (Matthew 23:12, NASB)

And there arose also a dispute among [the disciples] as to which one of them was regarded to be greatest. And He said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who have authority over them are called 'Benefactors.' But it is not this way with you, but the one who is the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like the servant. For who is greater, the one who reclines at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at the table? But I am among you as the one who serves." (Luke 22:24-27, NASB)

Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. (1 Corinthians 13:4-7, NASB)

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. (Philippians 2:3, NIV)

Pride

Pride focuses thought, energy, and attention on me a poor, pitiable, helpless creature. It distracts from You, our magnificent, loving, eternal Father. Pride steals Your glory and praise. It misleads those You would lovingly draw to Yourself. In the light of Your greatness, Lord, my pride is a lie. It cloaks me in darkness and self-delusion rather than love and truth. Pride focuses my mind inward rather than

upward and outward. It makes my world smaller.

Pride injures both me and those around me.

O merciful Father, by the Spirit of Christ save me from the foolishness of pride!

Hymn recording: Pride

Pride

Romans 12:3, 16; 1 Corinthians 1:31; 4:7; 8:1-2; 13:4; Galatians 6:14; Philippians 2:3; James 4:6



WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

LIGHT OF PRAISE 6.7.4.4.6.

Copyright © 2000, 2020 by LNWhymns.com (ASCAP. All rights reserved. Administered by Music Services. CCLI Song #3250732.

Scriptures on Holy Pride

Thus says the Lord, "Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches; but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me." (Jeremiah 9:23-24, NASB)

May it never be that I would boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. (Galatians 6:14, NASB)

Holy Pride

Lord, I grow proud at the slightest excuse. It doesn't take much for me to start imagining how great and wonderful I am. It sounds foolish, God, but You know it's true.

> Who makes you different from anyone else? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not? (1 Corinthians 4:7, NIV)

Lord, You have left me with only one thing to brag about: You and all the wonderful things You've done! I will take pride only in You.

> Don't let the Enemy of your soul discourage, deceive, or distract you from the wonderful things your loving Father longs to do in you.

Hymn recording: Isn't He Good?



CCLI Song #3307795. For CCLI information call 1-800-234-2446.

Psalm 73

(NASB)

Surely God is good to Israel, To those who are pure in heart! But as for me, my feet came close to stumbling, My steps had almost slipped. For I was envious of the arrogant As I saw the prosperity of the wicked. For there are no pains in their death, And their body is fat. They are not in trouble as other men, Nor are they plagued like mankind. Therefore pride is their necklace; The garment of violence covers them. Their eye bulges from fatness; The imaginations of their heart run riot. They mock and wickedly speak of oppression; They speak from on high. They have set their mouth against the heavens, And their tongue parades through the earth.

Therefore his people return to this place, And waters of abundance are drunk by them. They say, "How does God know? And is there knowledge with the Most High?" Behold, these are the wicked; And always at ease, they have increased in wealth. Surely in vain I have kept my heart pure And washed my hands in innocence; For I have been stricken all day long And chastened every morning.

If I had said, "I will speak thus," Behold, I would have betrayed the generation of Your children. When I pondered to understand this, It was troublesome in my sight Until I came into the sanctuary of God; Then I perceived their end. Surely You set them in slippery places; You cast them down to destruction. How they are destroyed in a moment! They are utterly swept away by sudden terrors! Like a dream when one awakes, O Lord, when aroused, You will despise their form.

When my heart was embittered And I was pierced within, Then I was senseless and ignorant; I was like a beast before You. Nevertheless I am continually with You; You have taken hold of my right hand. With Your counsel You will guide me, And afterward receive me to glory.

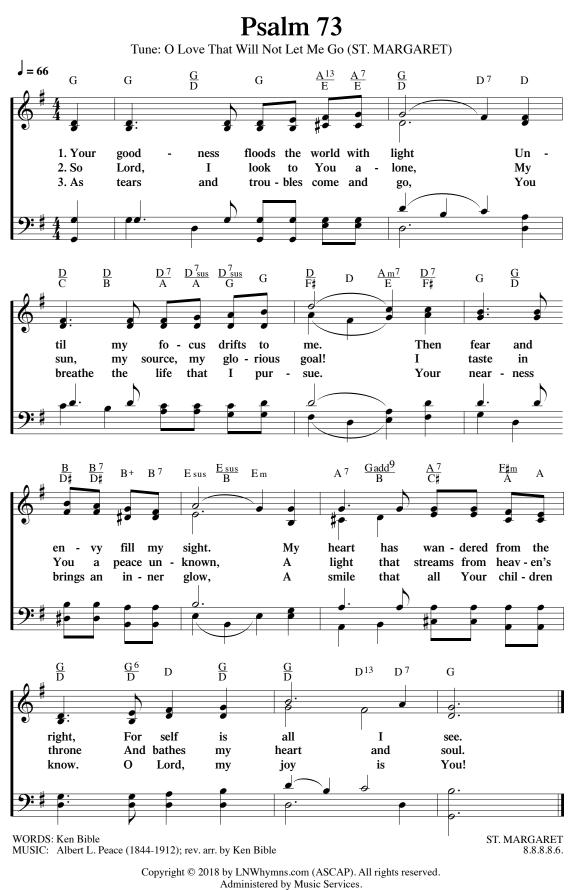
Whom have I in heaven but You?
And besides You, I desire nothing on earth.
My flesh and my heart may fail,
But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.
For, behold, those who are far from You will perish;
You have destroyed all those who are unfaithful to You.
But as for me, the nearness of God is my good;
I have made the Lord God my refuge,
That I may tell of all Your works.

Reflection on Psalm 73

Father, You alone are True Light. Only as we see You does the world come into focus. When we lose sight of You when our focus sinks to self all we see is distorted. The result is fear, doubt, envy, and anxious grasping. Reality now revolves around us, not You. We begin to see life through a lens of unbelief, and as we do, the unbelievers' way of life begins to make sense. We start to share their values and their desires. O Father, as I turn my eyes back to You, I see the truth in all its glorious beauty: You are the truth. I see life at its wondrous best: You are life. As I look to You, it is like looking into a mirror: my own image begins to change. I start to reflect Your love, Your peace, Your holiness, Your glory (2 Corinthians 3:18). You are pure goodness. You are life's beginning and goal and richest reward.

Your nearness is our highest good.

Hymn recording: Psalm 73



CCLI Song #7119971. For CCLI information call 1-800-234-2446.

Scriptures on the Blessings of Humility

The humble will inherit the earth and

delight themselves in the abundance of peace. (Psalm 37:11, author's translation)

Humility is the fear of the Lord; its wages are riches and honor and life. (Proverbs 22:4, NIV)

He has told you, O man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you But to do justice, to love kindness, And to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:8, NASB)

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. (Matthew 5:5, NIV)

And He called a child to Himself and set him before them, and said, "Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever then humbles himself as this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 18:2-4, NASB)

Blessed Are the Meek

Father, as we see Your greatness, we face our smallness. As we glimpse Your power, we grasp our weakness. As we marvel at Your transcendence. we embrace our lowliness. Standing before You, humility is natural, honest, and sweet. As we worship You, we forget ourselves. As we crown You Lord, we gladly resign the throne of our lives. Self-protection is unnecessary, for You, Sovereign God, are our protection. When Your own Son came to us, filled with all the fullness of the godhead, He was meek. He was completely empty before You, completely dependent on You. He relied on You for everything He said and did. This Jesus invites us to come to Him. He says:

"Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.
Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me,
for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
For My yoke is easy and My burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30, NASB)

Jesus invites us to lay down our constant, crushing burden of self-concern and take up the one easy burden of

simply trusting You. Father, give us the Spirit of Your Son Jesus.
Give us His Spirit of meekness not weakness, but meekness.
And from His Spirit, grow within us His gentle heart with His gentle words and His gentle hands.
Make us truly and completely Your children, meek before You, Your people, and the world.
Father, empty us of ourselves that we may be filled forever with You.

Hymn recording: Meekness



Administered by Music Services. CCLI Song #6633703. For CCLI information call 1-800-234-2446.

John 13:4-5, 12-16

(NASB)

[Jesus] got up from supper, and

laid aside His garments; and

taking a towel,

He girded Himself.

Then He poured water into the basin, and

began to wash the disciples' feet and

to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded.

So when He had washed their feet, and

taken His garments and

reclined at the table again,

He said to them,

"Do you know what I have done to you?

You call Me Teacher and Lord; and

you are right, for so I am.

If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet,

you also ought to wash one another's feet.

For I gave you an example that

you also should do as I did to you.

Truly, truly, I say to you,

a slave is not greater than his master,

nor is one who is sent greater than the one who sent him."

Foot Washing

What would you have felt as you watched Jesus, the Son of God,

get up from this important meal, take off His outer clothing, wrap a towel around His waist,

pour water into a basin,

get down on His knees, bend low, and

one by one wash His disciples' absolutely-filthy feet?

How would you have felt w

hen He got to you and

began washing your feet?

If a picture is worth a thousand words,

a living example is beyond words.

Instead of lecturing them,

He gave them an unforgettable experience complete with

sight,

touch, and

deep emotional memories.

Because He loved them,

He wanted love to take root in their daily lives.

He wanted them to grasp how absolutely vital it is that each and every one of us humbly serve one another.

Look around at the situation in which God has placed you. Consider the resources He has lent you. How does He want you to wash feet?

Hymn recording: Here at Your Feet, Lord



Scriptures on Humility toward Others

Walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love. (Ephesians 4:1-2, NASB)

Be subject to one another in the fear of Christ. (Ephesians 5:21, NASB)

Therefore, as God's chosen people,

holy and dearly loved,

clothe yourselves with

compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and

patience.

Bear with each other and forgive one another

if any of you has a grievance against someone.

Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

And over all these virtues put on love,

which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,

since as members of one body you were called to peace.

And be thankful. (Colossians 3:12-15, NIV)

Humility

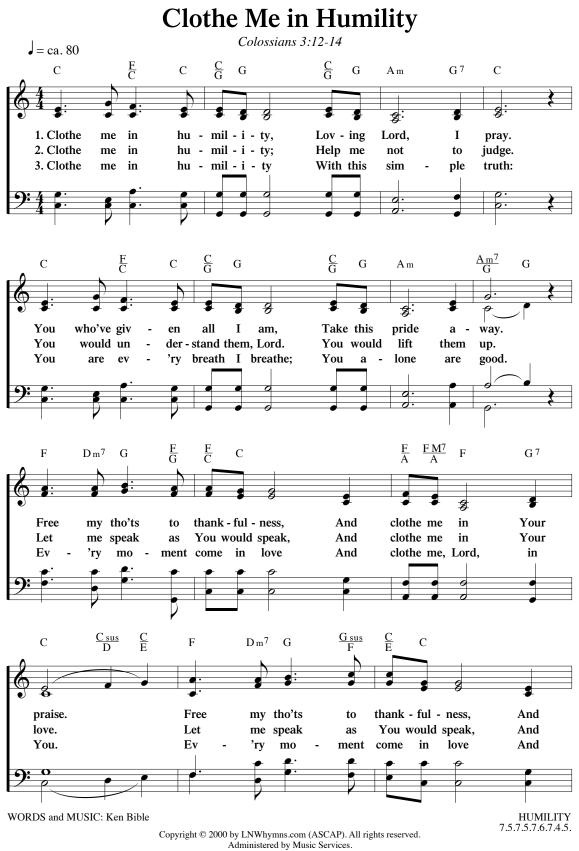
Humility is seeing God. Humility is worshiping Him. Humility is loving Him with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Humility is loving others fully and joyfully. Humility is truth. It is seeing the world and ourselves as we really are. Humility is sweet freedom from life's most constant and most crushing burden:

the burden of self-concern.

Humility is the freedom to release selfish anxiety and embrace Christ for all He is.

Jesus, humility is knowing You. It is one of the gifts of knowing You are with me. Thank You, my Lord!

Hymn recording: Clothe Me in Humility



CCLI Song #3304987. For CCLI information call 1-800-234-2446.

