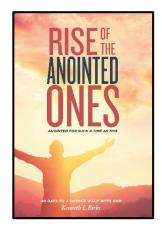
## **Clothed in Humility**

Humility is the primary character trait that allows Christ to conform us into His image. Without humility, we don't have a starting point. If we are to be vessels of honor who go into the Lord's harvest fields as His anointed ones, with His sufficiency working in and through us to see others transformed, humility before God and others is a must.

**Colossians 3:12** Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, long suffering.



When you look at the beatitudes that Jesus shared with His early followers, you see humility as the bottom rung of the ladder of all that He shared. Jesus said, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." At another time when His disciples were arguing about who was the greatest, He placed a little child in front of them and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven." Notice, He begins with the word "Assuredly." In other words, there are no shortcuts.

Being clothed in humility is the beginning of our journey in Christ. In every aspect of our lives, we must become like-minded in Him, especially in humility, if we are to enjoy the blessings, He desires to daily impart into our spirits. Paul's letter to the Philippian church expresses this thought perfectly.

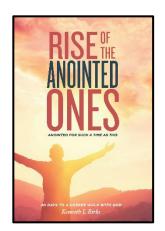
**Philippians 2:5-8** Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, 7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

Just as Christ had to humble Himself, so must we. Suppose we haven't come to the place where we have humbled ourselves before God or have been humbled by Him. In that case, pride will manifest itself in a myriad ways in our service areas to the body of Christ and our relationships with one another. As Christians, humility is an essential way of life for us, just as it was for Jesus.

Andrew Murray once said, "Humility before God is nothing if not proved in humility before men." Therefore, we must clothe ourselves in humility. Otherwise, we are nothing more than wild tares in the kingdom with our works burned, yet being saved so as by fire, whatever that means.

**1 Corinthians 3:11-12** For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw.

Let's keep in mind that Jesus is building His Church out of our lives. It will be a Church that will not only stand against all of Satan's wiles and authority but will be a shining example and replica of the life of Jesus while on earth. As we allow humility and all the attitudes in Christ to possess our lives, Jesus adequately fits and frames us together as living stones. growing into a holy temple as a dwelling place for God in the Spirit. Jesus is building His Church out of the living stones that consist of who we are as we faithfully humble ourselves in His presence. Jesus will have a Church that contains the glory that fills the earth with His presence as the following scripture reveals His prophetic purpose.





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**Ephesians 1:22-23** And He put all things under His feet and gave Him to be head over all things to the Church, 23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

In the above passage, Paul reveals how the Church Jesus is building will look when His fullness that fills all in all becomes reality. The same fullness that was evident in the life of Jesus during His time of ministry on earth will be evidenced in His body, the Church. However, this evidence will only happen as we humble ourselves before God and the people, He chooses to place us next to as lively stones. Therefore, we have a responsibility to humble ourselves so that He can exalt us in due time.