

Lesson 139  
Psalm 132

I. Introduction

- A. Psalm 131 is the twelfth of the "ascent Psalms." This is the "Psalm of Humility." The "ascent" of this Psalm is a spiritual one in that David the Psalmist is humble before His God. The scriptures tell us that humility is a work of grace from God in the hearts of His people. (Prv 3:34,6:16,17,8:13,11:2; 16:5,18,22:4; James 4:6; I Pet 5:5-7; Is 57:15; Col 3:12; Phil 2:2-11; Rom 12:10; Eph 5:21)
- B. To me, Psalm 131 gives credence and evidence to the inspired chronological sequence of the Psalms. True humility is a result of true worship. When our souls truly worship God in celebration of His forgiveness for our sins, and the amazing truth that God credits the righteousness of Christ to our account and all our sins are credited to Christ's account, the soul cannot help but be brought low in humble adoration and holy fear! (Ps 130:3,4; 2 Cor 5:21)
- C. Let us examine ourselves from this Psalm to see if our hearts are humble before our God like David's was! Can we say this?

II. David's personal testimony (v1,2)

- A. Address to His LORD-David knew God was omniscient and he boldly proclaimed, "my heart is not haughty." (Ps 139:1-6,23-24; I Sam 13:14, 16:7; Acts 13:22) David sinned and was not a perfect man but God has given him a will to obey, a softness to please the Lord, and a love for his people. This grace from God motivated David as he led God's people. When he sinned, God's grace brought him to humble, contrite brokenness, and genuine sorrow over that sin with a renewed desire to please the LORD and lead his people more effectively! (Ps 51:13)
- B. My heart is not haughty. Spurgeon said, "David began with his heart, for that is the center of our nature, and if pride be there, it denies everything. It is a grand thing for a man to know his own heart to be able to speak before the LORD about it. It is beyond all things deceitful and desperately wicked, who can know it? Who can know it unless taught by the Spirit of God?" (Jer 17:9; Pr 4:23; Prv 16:18, 21:24; Rom 11:20; I Tim 6:17; Gal 6:1-3) We cannot have an over high opinion of ourselves! Spurgeon sums this up when he states, "a heart that is not haughty does not have pride in his opinion of himself, nor does it have a contemptuousness to others, nor self-righteous before the Lord; neither boastful of the past, proud of the present, nor ambitious for the future."
- C. My eyes are not lofty. N. M'Michael said, "pride has its seat in the heart; but its principal is in the eye. The eye is the mirror of the soul; and from it mental and moral characteristics may be ascertained, with no small degree of precision." (Prov 30:12-13) Matthew Henry supports with this comment, "David has neither a scornful nor an aspiring look, either to look with envy upon those that are above me, or to look with disdain upon those that are below me." An additional comment from M'Cheyne helps us when he says, "it has always been my aim, and it is my prayer, to have no plan as regards myself; well assured as I am that the place where the Savior sees meet to place me must ever be the best place for me."
- D. Neither do I concern myself with great matters. This does not mean that David does not contemplate the deep things of God! The vast majority of the Davidic Psalms is a wonder and praise of the magnificence that is God! (Ps 8:3, 9:1-2, 14:2, 15:1, 16:2,10,19:1-4, 22:1-5, 23 etc...) What this phrase does mean is that I will not walk in, or exercise matters outside my sphere of influence. Spurgeon explains, "those practicing Godliness should be diligent in their own sphere; many through wishing to be great have failed to be good; they were not content to adorn the lowly stations which the LORD appointed them, and so they rushed at grandeur and power, and found destruction where they looked for honor." David has learned to be content and humble before His God! We are to be content with one talent and not demand five! God commands that we are faithful in what we have been given, not complaining, grumbling, or envious of what we have not been given!
- E. Nor with things too profound for me. God has secret purposes and sovereign means to accomplish them that I am not meant to cooperate with, but to acquiesce to! (Joseph Alexander) In a great prayer of faith, Anselm states, "I do not seek, O LORD, to penetrate thy depths. I by no means think my intellect is equal to them; but I long to understand to some degree thy truth, which my heart believes and loves. For I do not seek to understand that I may believe; but I believe that I may understand." (DT 29:29; I Cor 13:12; Rom 11:33-36; Job 38, 39, 40, 41, 42:2-6; Prov 30:32; I Cor 2:9-12)
- F. The analogy of a weaned child. This is a simile, metaphor, figurative language that the people would understand that explain simple trust in the Lord as a weaned child trusts his mother!
  - 1. Surely, I have calmed and quieted my soul. This is the language of a learned behavior! Spurgeon said, "God's grace has smoothed down the roughness of David's self-will; by a cooperative effort he had mastered his own spirit, so that towards God he was not rebellious. It is no easy thing to quiet yourself; sooner may a man calm the sea, or rule the wind, or tame a tiger, than quiet himself. We are clamorous, uneasy, petulant; and nothing but grace can make us quiet under afflictions, irritations, and disappointments."
  - 2. Weaned child with his mother. As infants, we are totally dependent on, and trust completely in, our moms to provide for us! But our mothers must wean us off for our own good! This is a beautiful picture of what God does for us. John Gill gives us great instruction when he says, "God must wean us from the world, the riches, honors, pleasures, and profits of it; as well as from nature, from self, from our own righteousness, and all dependence upon it; as a child that is weaned from his mothers breast." We must be weaned from self-sufficiency, self-will, and self-seeking; the flesh lusts against the spirit and the spirit against the flesh, we are in spiritual warfare for our sanctification! (Ps 62:5; Heb 13:5; Phil 4:11)

III. David's exhortation to the nation (v3) David, the one who was taught these mercies, now teaches the nation to hope in God!