Women of Africa Care Pty Ltd

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Episode 92
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Topic: Humility is a Strength, not a weakness

1. Humility leads to Godly skillfulness and understanding. God gives grace to the humble: Now while I *was* speaking, praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God for the holy mountain of my God, 21yes, while I *was* speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, reached me about the time of the evening offering. 22And he informed *me,* and talked with me, and said, "O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you **skill to understand.**

Daniel 10.12 Then he said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words. What was Daniel set to understand from God? v14Now I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision *refers* to *many* days yet *to come.*"

2. Jesus humility as a humble servant
Phil 2.5The Humbled and Exalted Christ
5Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, 6who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, 7but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bond servant and coming in the likeness of men. 8And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. 9Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Bondservant - doulos: a slave
a bond-slave, without any ownership rights of their own. Ironically, is used with the highest dignity in the NT – namely, of believers who willingly live under Christ's authority as His devoted followers.

Luke 22.41And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed, 42saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done." 43Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. 44And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

3. Moses the humble servant - going back to face the people that hunted him and mocked his leadership
Numbers 12.3 3(Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth.)
Exodus 3.14 And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.' " 15Moreover God said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: 'The Lord God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.' 16Go and gather the elders of Israel together, and say to them.

4. Nineveh's humility following God declaring Nineveh's judgement in Nahum 1 and 3
The burden against Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum the Elkoshite.
Plot against God - What do you conspire against the Lord?
Who plots evil against the Lord,
A wicked counselor.

Idolatry, vile behavior The Lord has given a command concerning you:
"Your name shall be perpetuated no longer.
Out of the house of your gods
I will cut off the carved image and the molded image.
I will dig your grave,
For you are vile."

Nahum 3 - The Woe of Nineveh
1Woe to the bloody city!
It is all full of lies and robbery.
Its victim never departs.
2The noise of a whip
And the noise of rattling wheels,
Of galloping horses,
Of clattering chariots!
3Horsemen charge with bright sword and glittering spear.
There is a multitude of slain,
A great number of bodies,
Countless corpses—
They stumble over the corpses—
4Because of the multitude of harlotries of the [d]seductive harlot,
The mistress of sorceries,
Who sells nations through her harlotries,
And families through her sorceries.

5"Behold, I am against you," says the Lord of hosts;
"I will lift your skirts over your face,
I will show the nations your nakedness,
And the kingdoms your shame.
6I will cast abominable filth upon you,
Make you vile,
And make you a spectacle.
7It shall come to pass that all who look upon you
Will flee from you, and say,
'Nineveh is laid waste!
Who will bemoan her?'
Where shall I seek comforters for you?"

National Humility - Jonah 3. God's mercy is upon the humble -

The People of Nineveh Believe
5So the people of Nineveh believed God, proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least of them. 6Then word came to the king of Nineveh; and he arose from his throne and laid aside his robe, covered himself with sackcloth and sat in ashes. 7And he caused it to be proclaimed and published throughout Nineveh by the decree of the king and his [b]nobles, saying,

Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything; do not let them eat, or drink water. 8But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily to God; yes, let every one turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. 9Who can tell if God will turn and relent, and turn away from His fierce anger, so that we may not perish?

10Then God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God relented from the disaster that He had said He would bring upon them, and He did not do it.

Jonah didn't feel like God should be merciful to them, but look how God showed grace to the humility of Nineveh

Johah 4. 9 Then God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?"

And he said, "It is right for me to be angry, even to death!"

10But the Lord said, "You have had pity on the plant for which you have not labored, nor made it grow, which came up in a night and perished in a night. 11And should I not pity Nineveh, that great city, in which are more than one hundred and twenty thousand persons who cannot discern between their right hand and their left—and much livestock?"

5. Humility Lifts you Up - God lifts those who Honor Him - Jesus recognizes Nineveh's and Queen Sheba for humbling themselves and giving God honor and He highlights their position as influential:
Matthew 12.41 - Nineveh humbled themselves and repented by the preaching of a prophet and here Jesus an eternal prophet speaks and the Jewish people do not humble themselves to the Gospel. 41The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed a greater than Jonah is here. 42The queen of the South will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and indeed a greater than Solomon is here.

2 Chron 9.5 Then she said to the king: "It was a true report which I heard in my own land about your words and your wisdom. 6However I did not believe their words until I came and saw with my own eyes; and indeed the half of the greatness of your wisdom was not told me. You exceed the fame of which I heard. 7Happy are your men and happy are these your servants, who stand continually before you and hear your wisdom! 8Blessed be the Lord your God, who delighted in you, setting you on His throne to be king for the Lord your God! Because your God has loved Israel, to establish them forever, therefore He made you king over them, to do justice and righteousness."

Humility lifts you up!
1 Peter 5.5 Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud,
But gives grace to the humble." 6Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, 7casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. 9Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world. 10But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you. 11To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.