

“Gracious Humiliation”

Daniel Message Series Week 4

Daniel 4

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Our greatest problem: Personal sin

God’s solution: Gracious humiliation

Gracious humiliation is God’s kindness to transform us from a people of self-centered exaltation to God-centered exaltation.

God’s tools for gracious humiliation:

1. The cross

“The Cross also exposes me before the eyes of other people, informing them of the depth of my depravity. If I wanted others to think highly of me, I would conceal the fact that a shameful slaughter of the perfect Son of God was required that I might be saved. But when I stand at the foot of the Cross and am seen by others under the light of that Cross, I am left uncomfortably exposed before their eyes. Indeed, the most humiliating gossip that could ever be whispered about me is blared from Golgotha’s hill; and my self-righteous reputation is left in ruins in the wake of its revelations.”

A Gospel Primer for Christians, Milton Vincent, Focus Publishing, Bemidji, MN, 2008, p. 34.

2. His Word

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Hebrews 4:12-13

3. Life's circumstances

Results of gracious humiliation:

1. God-centered exaltation
2. God-centered proclamation