

Assurance of Salvation  
Part 53

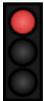
Humility – "Example Day!"  
(#5)

**\*\* HUMILITY \*\***

Today is  
**"Example Day!"**

**GOOD**  examples to follow.

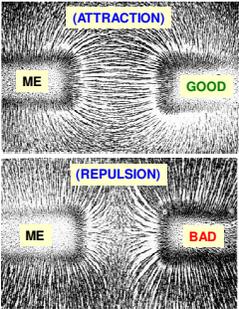
**"IN-BETWEEN"**  examples as warnings.

**BAD**  examples to NOT follow.

**How should we respond to examples?**

**We should be:**

-  – **Attracted** to good examples.
-  – **Careful** about "in-between" examples.
-  – **Repelled** by bad examples.



**About the examples...**

- They may include the word "humility."
- They may simply be an illustration of what humility is (or isn't).

 We will begin with the **"ultimate good"** example...

**JESUS CHRIST**  
The **ultimate good** example

Take my yoke on you and **learn from me**, because I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.  
Matthew 11:29 (NET)

- Jesus (as a sinless human) shows us the right relationship between God (= Creator) and humans (= created).  
**\*\* This relationship involves humility. \*\***



## WE LEARN from Jesus Christ (as a sinless human)

- Even sinless humans must be humble!
- Being sinful is **not the only reason** a person needs humility!
  - Sin just increases the need.

## [ BY THE WAY... ]

- From beginning to end, humility will always characterize the right relationship between humans and God!
  - **Adam and Eve**, before they sinned, had humility, simply because they were created beings.
  - **In eternity**, all who are with Jesus will be humble for the same reason. We will stop being sinners, but we will never stop being created beings!

**Now for 2 ways**  
**Jesus is an example...**

- Eager to do the Father's (God's) will, even if it means suffering and death.\*

For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me.

John 6:38 (ESV)

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Acts 8:33a (ESV)

... he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Philip. 2:8b (ESV)

\*(We know that his death was not the end of the story!)

- Willing to be the example he wanted others to follow.

Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.

John 13:14-15 (NIV)

For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

Luke 22:27 (NIV)



**Good examples** –  
Sinful humans who became saved  
and remained steadfast

Follow my example, **as I follow** the example of Christ.

1 Cor. 11:1 (NIV)

- Good examples should be followed only to the extent that they follow the example of Jesus Christ!



WE LEARN from  
**Good** examples

- We can do great things, and we can give proper credit to the God who makes it possible!
- Even the "worst of sinners" can become humble, if they repent and follow God.

• **Paul, an Apostle:**

– The way he served God.

"I served the Lord with great humility and with tears, ..."

Acts 20:19a (NIV)

– The way he served others.

"Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. ..."

"I have become all things to all people, so that by all means I may save some."

1 Cor. 9:19 (NIV), 22b (NET)

• **Mary, mother of Jesus:**

– Lived in humble circumstances; willing to do God's will, whatever it may be.

"I am the servant of the Lord," exclaimed Mary; "let it be with me as you have said."

Luke 1:38a (OEB)

And Mary said: "My soul exalts the Lord, and my spirit delights in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on his humble servant girl. "

Luke 1:46-48a (OEB)

• **Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon:**

– a pagan king can change!

– God humbled him in a very dramatic way. This is his testimony afterwards:

"Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, for all his works are right and his ways are just; and those who walk in pride he is able to humble."

Daniel 4:37 (ESV)

• **Manasseh, worst king of Judah:**

– Don't give up on those who seem beyond hope! \*

And when he was in distress [as a prisoner in Babylon], he entreated the favor of the LORD his God and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers. He prayed to him, and God was moved by his entreaty and heard his plea and brought him again to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD was God.

2 Chron. 33:12-13 (ESV)

\* (Sadly, it was too late to prevent judgment of the nation, which chose to follow his previous evil example).



**"Caution"** examples – Followers of God who have a temporary relapse into pride

So, if you think you are standing firm, **be careful** that you don't fall!

1 Cor. 10:12 (NIV)

• Pride, the opposite of humility, can cause godly people to stumble and experience horrible consequences.



WE LEARN from **"Caution"** examples

- Sin has consequences.
  - We can repent and turn back to God, but there may be consequences we cannot undo.
- Our sins may also influence others.

• **Hezekiah, king of Judah:**

– A summary of his life:

Hezekiah trusted in the Lord, the God of Israel. There was no one like him among all the kings of Judah, either before him or after him.

2 Kings 18:5 (NIV)



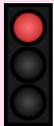
– But in a moment of weakness...

But Hezekiah's heart was proud ... therefore the Lord's wrath was on him and on Judah and Jerusalem.

Then Hezekiah repented of the pride of his heart, as did the people of Jerusalem;\* therefore the Lord's wrath did not come upon them during the days of Hezekiah.

2 Chron. 32:25-26 (NIV)

\*(Apparently the people followed his example and fell into the same sin.)



**Bad** examples –  
Unsaved people,  
no genuine humility exists

Now these things **occurred as examples** to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did.

1 Cor. 10:6 (NIV)

- Even BAD examples have a purpose.



WE LEARN from  
**Bad** examples

- Not being humble is a sin worthy of judgment.
- Temporary humility may have temporary value (at best).
- Even if we don't experience consequences in this life, these examples should serve as warnings of eternal consequences we could face.

• **King Ahab** – Temporary humility

– The judgment he was promised would be delayed.

"Have you seen how Ahab has humbled himself before me? Because he has humbled himself before me, I will not bring disaster in his days. I will bring the disaster on his house in the days of his son."

1 Kings 21:29 (LEB)

– The situation looks good here; but later chapters show that this was temporary. He still hated God's prophets.

• **King Herod** – He enjoyed "playing God" ... and God put him in his place.

On an appointed day, Herod dressed himself in royal clothing, sat on the throne, and gave a speech to them. The people shouted, "The voice of a god, and not of a man!"

Immediately an angel of the Lord struck him, because he didn't give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and died.

Acts 12:21-23 (WEB)

– The truth "gnawed" at him the rest of his shortened life.

- **Kings Amon and Belshazzar** – Unwilling to follow their father's / grandfather's examples of repentance and humility.

But unlike his father [Manasseh], he did not humble himself before the Lord. Instead, Amon sinned even more.

2 Chron. 33:23 (NLT)

"You are his successor, O Belshazzar, and you knew all this [how God humbled Nebuchadnezzar], yet you have not humbled yourself. "

Daniel 5:22 (NLT)

– Both of them died in judgment.

## YOUR MISSION

### YOU ARE AN EXAMPLE.

- What kind of example are you?
  - How would GOD evaluate your example?
  - What would your friends and family, and even your enemies, say about your example?

## YOUR MISSION

### YOU WILL BE AN EXAMPLE.

- What kind of example do you want to be?
- What are you doing to make it happen?

## Credits (1)

### SCRIPTURE

- John 6:38; Acts 8:33a; Philippians 2:8b; Daniel 4:37; 2 Chronicles 33:12-13 - Scripture quotation from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. ([www.esv.org](http://www.esv.org))
- Luke 1:28a, 46-48a - Scripture quoted from Open English Bible, public domain ([www.openebibible.org/](http://www.openebibible.org/)).
- 1 Kings 2:29 - Scripture quotations marked (LEB) are from the Lexham English Bible. Copyright 2012 Logos Bible Software. Lexham is a registered trademark of Logos Bible Software. (<http://www.lexhamengbible.com>) and (<http://www.logos.com>)
- Matthew 11:29; 1 Corinthians 9:22b - Scripture quoted by permission. Quotations designated (NET) are from the NET Bible® copyright © 1996-2006 by Biblical Studies Press, L.L.C. <http://netbible.com> All rights reserved.
- Acts 12:21-23 - Scripture quoted from the World English Bible (Public Domain), ([www.ebible.org](http://www.ebible.org))
- 2 Chronicles 33:22; Daniel 5:22 - Scripture quoted from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Wheaton, Illinois 60189. All rights reserved. ([www.nlt.org](http://www.nlt.org))
- Other Scripture quotations - Scripture quoted from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved. ([www.zondervanbibles.com](http://www.zondervanbibles.com))

## Credits (2)

### PICTURES

- RED LIGHT - By makiu? (Image:Ampel.svg) [CC-BY-SA-2.5 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.5/>)] via Wikimedia Commons [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:SA%2ATraffic\\_lights\\_dark\\_red.svg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:SA%2ATraffic_lights_dark_red.svg)
- YELLOW LIGHT - By makiu? (Image:Ampel.svg) [CC-BY-SA-2.5 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.5/>)] via Wikimedia Commons [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:SA%2ATraffic\\_lights\\_dark\\_yellow.svg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:SA%2ATraffic_lights_dark_yellow.svg)
- GREEN LIGHT - By makiu? (Image:Ampel.svg) [CC-BY-SA-2.5 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.5/>)] via Wikimedia Commons [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:SA%2ATraffic\\_lights\\_dark\\_green.svg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:SA%2ATraffic_lights_dark_green.svg)
- "Super bright" Green Light - Green light (described above), modified by Dennis Hinks.
- Magnetic field, attraction - By Alexander Wilmer Duff (Public domain), via Wikimedia Commons [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Magnetic\\_field\\_of\\_bar\\_magnets\\_attraction.org](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Magnetic_field_of_bar_magnets_attraction.org)
- Magnetic field, repulsion - By Alexander Wilmer Duff (Public domain), via Wikimedia Commons [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Magnetic\\_field\\_of\\_bar\\_magnets\\_repulsion.org](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Magnetic_field_of_bar_magnets_repulsion.org)
- Backgrounds not listed above (and not a solid shade or provided as part of Microsoft PowerPoint®) - Dennis Hinks © 2013, 2014.
- Presentation - Dennis Hinks © 2014.
- DISCLAIMER: The use of a picture does not imply that the author of that picture agrees with the views of this presentation. Some might agree, some might not.