> God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him.
>
> *— 1 Corinthians 1:28-29*

Book: New Testament / 1 Corinthians
Topics: pride, calling, humility, world

Interpretation:
First *Corinthians 1:28-29* speaks of God’s sovereignty and His purpose in choosing believers. The main idea of ??the verse is that God chooses those whom He wants His will to be done and that ultimately no one can boast before Him.

Divine choice

Verse 29 says, *“so that no one may boast before him,”* which suggests that the Corinthians, in their arrogance, may have sought to boast in themselves or in others. But *Paul*, the writer of the letter, teaches that election is not based on human understanding, but on the divine will. God chooses whom He wants to save regardless of their wisdom, ability, wealth, or social status, and regardless of their works.

The grace of God

These verses remind us that justification, salvation, and all spiritual blessings are thanks to God. This is an expression of God's free love for us because we are not worthy of His grace and salvation. Therefore, we must be humble and grateful for the salvation we have received through faith in *the Lord Jesus Christ*.

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> If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.
> — *1 Corinthians 13:3*

Book: New Testament / 1 Corinthians
Topics: pride, body, giving, love, poverty, suffering

Interpretation:
The verse in *1 Corinthians 13:3* reminds us that no matter how many good deeds we do, if we do not do them out of love, everything we do will be in vain.

How can this verse help us?

This Bible verse helps us remember how important love is. In a society that tends to value works, status, and appearances more, *1 Corinthians 13:3* reminds us that love is the most important thing. We can engage in many noble deeds and make great sacrifices, but if we do not have love, everything we do will be in vain.

Moreover, this Bible verse helps us think about our motives. Why do we do what we do? What is our motivation? Are we doing it out of love or for some less noble reason? Remembering the value of love can motivate us to do things for the right reasons.

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> For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world.
> — *1 John 2:16*

Book: New Testament / 1 John
Topics: pride, addiction, desires, Father, world

Interpretation:
First *John 2:16* tells us that nothing sinful in the world comes from *the Father*, but comes from the world itself. Specifically, this verse points to three main aspects that corrupt our lives: the lusts of the

flesh, the lusts of the eyes, and the pride of life.

The phrase *“lusts of the flesh”* refers to the physical impulses and desires that drive our behavior. On the other hand, the vanity of life refers to the arrogance and pride that can cause us to seek the approval of others. Finally, *“the lust of the eyes”* refers to our tendency to be caught up in material things and fleeting pleasures.

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> But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”
> *— 1 Samuel 16:7*

Book: Old Testament / 1 Samuel
Topics: pride, beauty, heart

Interpretation:
This verse takes place in the story of *Samuel* choosing King *David*. Samuel, in search of a successor to King *Saul*, visits Jesse's family and meets his seven sons. Samuel is attracted to Eliab, the oldest and tallest son, but God tells Samuel not to judge by appearances but to look within.

This verse presents an important dual perspective: on the one hand, the need to overcome the limitations of superficial appearances, and on the other hand, the importance of the heart in our relationship with God and in life in general.

It is easy to judge people by how they look on the outside. But it is important to remember that while appearances may be attractive, they are not what best defines a person. As the verse says, *God looks at the heart, that is, at one’s goodness, character, values, and virtues*.

Often in our quest for happiness and self-fulfillment we focus on meeting standards of beauty and material success, but it is important to remember the inner beauty that every person possesses and that cannot be measured by physical, social or cultural standards.

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> Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.
> *— 1 Timothy 6:17*

Book: New Testament / 1 Timothy
Topics: pride, joy, materialism, money

Interpretation:
Verse *1 Timothy 6:17* teaches us that the rich in this world are commanded not to be high-minded or to put their hope in riches, because they are unreliable and transitory. Instead, they are encouraged to trust in God, who is the only one who can provide us with everything we need, and to enjoy His blessings.

How can this verse help the reader?

This verse is helpful to all of us, whether we are rich or poor. It reminds us how important it is not to cling to material things or become depressed when what we think will bring us happiness does not work out. Instead, we are to trust in God, who provides us with everything we need in life.

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> But, “Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.” For it is not the one who commends himself who is approved, but the one whom the Lord commends.
> *— 2 Corinthians 10:17-18*

Book: New Testament / 2 Corinthians
Topics: pride, reliability

Interpretation:

2 Corinthians 10:17-18 contains an important reflection on the need to recognize the approval that comes from the Lord. This means that we must be humble and not try to praise ourselves, because true approval comes from God.

Glorification in modern culture

In today's culture, self-praise is everywhere: social media, advertising, professional and personal success, overconsumption, vanity, and arrogance. Such behavior is considered normal and even desirable, but it often leads to emptiness and dissatisfaction. These verses encourage us to reflect on our intentions and behavior and consider whether we are seeking our own gain or God's.

True glory

When we glorify ourselves, we put ourselves at the center of our lives and distance ourselves from what is truly important. On the contrary, when we glorify ourselves in the Lord, we recognize that He is the center of our lives and strive to follow His will. True glory comes from following and obeying God, loving and serving others, and seeking justice and peace in a world full of injustice and conflict. This is the true source of happiness and satisfaction.

Praise from the Lord

In this sense, it is important to understand that God's approval is not based on our achievements or abilities. It is not about being perfect or having special abilities. God's approval is based on our humility and willingness to follow His teachings and always seek His will. As Christians, we must strive to live in accordance with the values ??and teachings of the Bible. Humility is one of the most important values ??we must develop. We must recognize that everything we have and are is due to the grace of God, not to our own merits.

Furthermore, we must learn to value God's approval above the approval of others. We often seek approval from others, but this does not always lead us down the right path. If we want to live according to God's will, we must always seek His approval. On the other hand, it is also important to remember that these verses do not mean that we should not acknowledge or welcome the good deeds of others. If we see someone doing something good, we should express our gratitude and appreciation. However, we must do so sincerely and humbly, knowing that everything we do comes from the hand of God.

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> Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble.
>
> — *Daniel 4:37*

Book: Old Testament / Daniel
Topics: pride, humility, righteousness, worship

Interpretation:
The Book of Daniel tells the story of a faithful man in the midst of a hostile environment. *Daniel* is taken captive to Babylon along with his friends *Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego*. There they must face a society that does not recognize the Lord as God. In chapter four, *King Nebuchadnezzar* has a disturbing dream, and he asks Daniel to interpret it.

In the dream, Nebuchadnezzar saw a giant tree that grew and spread across the land, providing shade for many people and a source of food for all species. However, an angel cuts down the tree, leaving it bare of leaves and branches, and the animals flee. The angel then turns his attention to the king, who transforms himself into an animal and lives among the animals for a time.

Daniel interprets the dream, saying that the tree symbolizes Nebuchadnezzar himself, who exalted himself, forgetting that everything he has is because of God. Furthermore, he declares that God will temporarily take away his kingdom so that he can learn to live humbly.

After a while, the prophecy is fulfilled and the king falls into madness and lives like an animal. But eventually, Nebuchadnezzar acknowledges the God of Daniel's people as the King of heaven and praises him in *verse 37*, which we are analyzing.

Everything He does is right and all His ways are just

Nebuchadnezzar praises the *King of heaven* because he finally realizes that all His works are true and just. This statement shows that even though the king rebelled against the God of Israel, he recognizes that there is a supreme personality who controls everything that happens in the world.

Moreover, this statement acknowledges the sovereignty of God and places everything under His control. Even though circumstances may sometimes seem negative and unfair, we can trust that God is in control and that His works are true and His ways are just.

Humility is the Key

This verse also teaches us the importance of living humbly. Nebuchadnezzar was a powerful king who was proud of his accomplishments, but eventually he realized his mistake and humbled himself before God.

Humility is a very important virtue in the Christian life. It helps us realize our dependence and our need for God. Living a humble life does not mean that we have no goals or that we do not strive to be better. It means recognizing that everything we have and who we are is due to God, and that His will must always be our guide.

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> When I fed them, they were satisfied; when they were satisfied, they became proud; then they forgot me.
> *— Hosea 13:6*

Book: Old Testament / Hosea
Topics: pride, dependence, food, materialism

Interpretation:
Hosea is one of the twelve prophets of the *Old Testament*. His book contains many reflections on the love, justice, and mercy of God. In this particular verse, Hosea is talking about the people of Israel and how they turned away from God.

Hosea 13:6 is a reminder of how material satisfaction can lead to arrogance and forgetfulness of God. This verse reminds us that when we meet our basic needs, such as food and water, it is easy to forget that these are gifts from God. Instead of thanking God for His blessings, we often become arrogant and forget about Him.

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> Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position. But the rich should take pride in their humiliation—since they will pass away like a wild flower.
>
> — *James 1:9-10*

Book: New Testament / James
Topics: pride, humility, money

Interpretation:
The Book of James, part of the New Testament, offers us a number of teachings and advice for our personal and spiritual growth. Verses that stand out for their deep wisdom and meaning are *James 1:9-10*. These verses encourage us to consider the importance of humility and the recognition that true greatness lies in serving others.

Joy in humility

The Apostle *James* speaks of “brethren,” meaning all those who share faith in *Jesus Christ*. The term “humble” refers to those who do not have a high social or economic status. It is interesting to note that *the Word of God* places great emphasis on humility, as it is one of the core values ??that every Christian must possess in order to grow in their faith.

Why should we boast about our exaltation if we are humble? These verses teach us that true exaltation is not in titles or wealth, but in being chosen by God to be part of His Kingdom. In other words, being a Christian is what makes us truly exalted in God. Therefore, we should be grateful for this blessing, not for our earthly possessions.

Wealth is like flowers on the grass

James 1:9-10 reminds us of the fleeting nature of earthly wealth. Wealth is a temporary gift, but it is no guarantee of a prosperous life. Those who are rich in this world must know that their wealth is not infallible and that they can lose everything they have at any moment. People often become overwhelmed with pride when they achieve professional success, earn a degree, or acquire expensive material goods. However, God calls us to be different in our thinking and actions.

If we are humble, we should find our glory in what really matters: *our relationship with God and our ability to love and serve others*. This passage also indicates that those who become obsessed with their wealth will be doomed to humiliation. Humility is important in the lives of believers because it allows us to recognize our limitations and shortcomings, and it makes us dependent on God.

The needs of others

It is easy to give in to vanity and selfishness in our daily lives. However, if we strive to be humble, we will be better able to see the needs of others and to provide support to those in need. Moreover, we will understand that everything we have has been given to us by the grace of God and that our role in life is to use these blessings to help others.

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> He went on: “What comes out of a person is what defiles them. For it is from within, out of a person’s heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. All these evils come from inside and defile a person.”
> *— Mark 7:20-23*

Book: New Testament / Mark
Topics: pride, anger, evil, purification, sin, temptation

Interpretation:
Mark 7:20-23 teaches us the importance of our thoughts and actions. These verses teach us that evil deeds do not come from outside ourselves, but originate in our hearts and minds. The Bible tells us that the heart is deceitful by nature and often leads us astray. Therefore, it is important to guard and protect our hearts so that we do not give in to evil thoughts and desires.

The nature of sin

In today’s culture, there is a tendency to blame a person’s bad actions on society, upbringing, or external factors. However, these verses remind us that negative actions actually originate within ourselves and our thoughts. This means that we are fully responsible for our actions, and we should strive to think positive and constructive thoughts.

These verses also talk about actions that can be caused by an evil heart. Adultery, fornication, murder, and other evil actions are mentioned. This shows us that if we do not guard our minds and hearts, we can fall into dark paths that lead us away from truth and goodness.

Transformation of the heart

But even if we are destined to sin, that does not mean we have to remain that way. *Jesus* came and died on the cross so that we could be forgiven of our sins and transformed into new creatures. He gives us the opportunity to have a new heart, pure and unstained by sin. This transformation of the heart is an ongoing process that requires our active participation.

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> The pride of your heart has deceived you, you who live in the clefts of the rocks and make your home on the heights, you who say to yourself, 'Who can bring me down to the ground?
> *— Obadiah 1:3*

Book: Old Testament / Obadiah
Topics: pride, humility, righteousness

Interpretation:
The book of Obadiah, one of the shortest in the Bible, contains a profound and powerful message that warns us of the dangers of pride in *verse three*. In this sense, the author tells us that our arrogance can be a trap that distances us from God and can lead us to destruction.

But what is pride?

To understand the gravity of *Obadiah's* warning, it is important to understand how pride is defined. The term refers to an attitude of pride and conceit that manifests itself in overconfidence, a lack of humility, and an attitude of superiority over others. In other words, it is a form of arrogance that prevents us from recognizing our limitations and makes us believe that we are infallible and invincible.

Pride as a Trap

The problem with pride is that it prevents us from seeing the reality of things. The verse we are examining shows how the proud deceive themselves into believing that nothing and no one can break them. However, this attitude is a dangerous illusion, because life is full of circumstances that can overwhelm us and remind us of our vulnerability.

Humility as an Antidote

To avoid falling into the trap of pride, it is necessary to cultivate humility. This virtue allows us to recognize our limitations and accept them without underestimating or overestimating ourselves. Humility makes us aware of the existence of God and helps us realize that we are part of something greater than ourselves.

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> When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.
> — *Proverbs 11:2*

Book: Old Testament / Proverbs
Topics: pride, humility, wisdom

Interpretation:
Proverbs 11:2 talks about pride and humility. Pride is a negative feeling that can affect many areas of our lives. On the other hand, humility is a positive feeling that helps us live in harmony with others and achieve success in life.

What is pride?

Pride is a feeling of vanity and excessive arrogance. When a person is arrogant, they may feel superior to others and not accept criticism or advice. This feeling can be very negative, as it does not allow for humility and the ability to learn.

What is humility?

Humility is a feeling of modesty, simplicity, and respect for others. A humble person does not consider himself superior to others and is willing to learn from others and accept criticism. This feeling is very positive, as it promotes learning and good coexistence.

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> Before a downfall the heart is haughty, but humility comes before honor.
> — *Proverbs 18:12*

Book: Old Testament / Proverbs
Topics: pride, humility

Interpretation:
Proverbs 18:12 speaks of two different attitudes toward trials and achievements. First, we are told that before the fall, the heart of man becomes proud, that is, it becomes filled with arrogance and conceit.

When things go well, we tend to believe that it is because of our skill or intelligence, and we begin to rely on our own strength to succeed. However, this verse reminds us that there is another way, and that the true source of honor is humility. Humility allows us to realize that everything we have is not due to us, but comes from God.

Thoughts on pride and humility

Pride is one of the most destructive sins, because it causes us to believe that we are superior to others and to act selfishly. When we are filled with pride, we have difficulty accepting help or advice from others, and we become withdrawn and defensive.

On the other hand, humility allows us to see things clearly, without the layer of egocentrism that pride envelops us with. Humility makes us more open, more compassionate, and more willing to accept constructive criticism.

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> Pride brings a person low, but the lowly in spirit gain honor.
> — *Proverbs 29:23*

Book: Old Testament / Proverbs
Topics: pride, humility

Interpretation:

The Bible is a book containing many teachings and reflections on life, personal virtues, and the path to God. One of the recurring themes in its pages is humility, which, according to biblical wisdom, is a fundamental virtue for achieving a full and joyful life.

A good example is *Proverbs 29:23*. This passage emphasizes that human pride is a sure path to humiliation, while humility of spirit is a guarantee of honor.

Humility and elevation of Spirit

In everyday life, we often encounter people who feel superior to others, consider themselves worthy of special treatment, and put their own interests above those of others. Such people are called arrogant, and although they may appear successful in some ways, in the long run they are destined to humiliate themselves.

On the other hand, humility is a virtue that allows people to recognize their limitations, be tolerant of others, appreciate their neighbors, and be open and willing to learn. Humility does not mean giving up self-respect or self-confidence, but rather recognizing that we are all imperfect and therefore need the help of others and divine grace to grow and achieve our goals.

Humility on the path to God

Humility is not simply a social or personal virtue; it is an integral part of the path to God. Arrogance and vanity can distance us from the Divine presence, while humility and compassion draw us closer to Him and allow us to experience His love and forgiveness.

Jesus was a model of humility, so His example serves as a guide for Christians who wish to follow the path He proposed. The Gospel contains numerous instructions on humility, such as: *"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:3)*.

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> To fear the Lord is to hate evil; I hate pride and arrogance, evil behavior and perverse speech.
>
> — *Proverbs 8:13*

Book: Old Testament / Proverbs

Topics: pride, awe, evil, lying

Interpretation:
The Book of Proverbs is one of the most important books in the Bible, containing various pieces of advice and teachings to guide believers in the path of wisdom and goodness. One of the most famous verses in the book is *chapter 8, verse 13*, which talks about the fear of the Lord and His connection with evil.

What is the fear of the Lord?

To understand this verse, it is important to understand what is meant by the fear of the Lord. It does not mean the literal fear of God, but rather respect, reverence, and recognition of divine superiority. The fear of the Lord involves understanding that God is the creator and judge of mankind, and therefore it is our duty to keep His commandments and always seek His will.

Abomination of evil: a divine requirement

Proverbs 8:13 makes it clear that the fear of the Lord should cause us to hate evil in all its forms. God is a God of justice and love, and therefore He cannot tolerate evil and injustice.

From the Old Testament to the present day, people have made mistakes and sins that have separated us from God, and that is why we need to reject anything that separates us from His will.

Pride, arrogance, evil way, and perverse lips

Proverbs 8:13 lists some of the ways evil manifests itself in people. Pride and arrogance are attitudes that reflect a lack of humility and an over-inflated sense of self that can lead to injustice and oppression toward others.

Evil way refers to any action that is contrary to divine commandments, and perverse lips refer to actions of speech that indicate a heart full of evil, such as lying, deceit, and slander.

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> Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.
>
> *— Romans 12:16*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: pride, community, contentment, dependence, humility

Interpretation:
Romans 12:16 tells us about the importance of unity and harmony among believers. It is vital that we strive to maintain good relationships with our brothers and sisters in the faith, working together toward a common goal. A united community is essential to our spiritual growth and will allow us to better cope with the challenges that come our way.

Don’t be arrogant

This same verse warns us about the importance of not being arrogant. We should always remain humble, regardless of our social or economic status. Humility allows us to learn and grow in our relationships by recognizing our own limitations and accepting the differences we may have with others.

Associate with the humble

Not only should we maintain a humble attitude, but we should also seek to associate with those who are also humble. Humility is contagious, and associating with people who practice it will help us develop it in our lives.

Additionally, showing humility will also allow us to reach out to those who have fewer resources or who are in difficult situations, offering them our help and support.

Don't be wise in your own opinion

Finally, we are reminded that we should not be wise in our own eyes. This means that we should not rely solely on our own knowledge and skills, but recognize that there is always more to learn. We should be willing to listen to the opinions of others and be open to the possibility of learning something new.

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