

Introduction

William Beebe, the naturalist, used to tell this story about Teddy Roosevelt. At Sagamore Hill, after an evening of talk, the two would go out on the lawn and search the skies for a certain spot of star-like light near the lower left-hand corner of the Great Square of Pegasus. Then Roosevelt would recite:

"That is

the Spiral Galaxy in Andromeda. It is as large as our Milky Way. It is one of a hundred million galaxies. It consists of one hundred billion suns, each larger than our sun."

Then Roosevelt would grin and say, "Now I think we are small enough! Let's go to bed."

"The true way to be humble is not to stoop until you are smaller than yourself, but to stand at your real height against some higher nature that will show you what the real smallness of your greatness is."

Lessons from Humility:

- **Christ is the model life of a Christian - Service through sacrifice and suffering**
- Humbling ourselves as little children is required for salvation
- The humble are the greatest in the kingdom of heaven over those who embrace the world's value system of might, wealth, prominence, and position.

Tonight, let's see how humility enables us to follow the Bible, God's Word

READ Isaiah 66:1-2

- Confidence of the Jews was in the temple. Both the prophets and Christ referred to its destruction to shake their vain confidence.
- God says that he doesn't need it – He's got heaven and earth – can you outdo that.
- Reference to building a temple for God, same with us who can make a life that accommodate God?
 - Arrogance seeks to manipulate God, but humility owns up to sin, owns up to unworthiness and throws himself at the mercy of God
 - False approaches to the Word
 - Manipulative approaches to the Word - duty, legalism, moralism
- The temple of God's choice is in the heart of a humble person – one who regard's himself as a little child before God
 - Broken
 - Trembles at His word.

Humility enables us to follow the Bible, God's Word

- **The contrite tremble at God's word**
 - Luke v10:21 "In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them **to little children**; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. "
 - Distrust ourselves, trusting God. Examine your life... is it justified by the Word?
- **Not dispute, nor ignored, reject**
 - Clear sign of true faith is trust and humility
 - ILL – Stephanie rappelling at age 4
 - Opposite of culture's reaction: buffet-style belief is self-centered and peer to God not child-like
 - Humility enables us to accept the Bible's doctrine... All of our theological ideas must be tested against the Word...the whole word not parts.

- **Allow it to search us and sit in judgment on us**
 - Not only a Source of knowledge & facts, but not only
 - Expression of God's will for daily life
 - Knowledge doesn't equal obedience or righteousness

Conclusion

Humility is the life of the Christian as it was of Christ. It is our life because it was how we were saved... seeing our sins & guilt before God & as a child calling to their Dad at night we call to Christ, SAVE ME!