

Reckon and Respect

Philippians 2:5-7 “Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.”

The rungs on God’s corporate ladder go down to go up. With God, it’s not about climbing up; it’s about being poured out.

What would happen to our struggles if we really respected God?

My family likes to read “Hank The Cow-dog”, and when Hank goes “slurp” thinking about feasting on the rooster J.T. Cluck, when as head of Ranch Security, that’s the almighty “no-no” in his profession. But think about this, a dead dog doesn’t have any inclination to eat a live chicken.

The Bible tells me that when it comes to sin, just reconcile my spiritual checkbook to say, “That area is dead! It’s not getting any more of my spiritual life savings.”

That’s one side; the other is respect for God, otherwise known as “fear of the LORD”. I won’t reckon myself dead to sin if I don’t respect what God says about me. The revelation that was given to me on how to properly respect the LORD is to look at how God loved and gave us so much that he emptied himself.

Think of the ladder rungs that Jesus climbed down. Rung one, he didn’t consider equality with God as something to be grasped. Rung two, made himself nothing. Three, took on the nature of a servant. Four, made in human likeness. Five, in verse eight, “And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death--even death on a cross!”

When we see how Jesus humbly respected Father-God, and not only reckoned himself as dead, but actually died. The least we can do is reckon ourselves dead to sin, and respect God enough to obey.

