

The Psalms of Ascents

Week 5 – Friday

1 Pet. 5:5

Rev. 3:17 – Footnotes 17¹, 17²

Only a humble person can be accepted by God. God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble (1 Pet. 5:5). Whenever our heart is proud, we will be rejected by God; whenever we are humble in the presence of God, we will be accepted by God and enjoy His grace. Never assume that you are better than anyone or higher than others. Whenever you take such a position, you are about to fall. That God opposes a proud person means that such a person is given up by God. Only those who are humble in God's presence will be received by Him. We need God's mercy. Never assume that you are higher than others or better than other Christians. Never assume that the church is better than other Christian organizations. In the past I heard brothers saying, "We are the storage house of Joseph. We need to spread food to other Christians who are in famine." In their opinion, all the other Christians are in famine; only we have the grain. After I heard such a word I knew that we were in a condition that God would oppose us. God opposes those who are proud. I still remember that about 10 years ago the brethren who were raised up by Darby had a conference in Chicago and announced that all the revelations in the Bible are opened to them. They believe that all the revelation from God has been opened to them. They have a certain kind of self approving pride, believing that they can give revelation to other children of God. This is like what the Lord spoke to the church in Laodicea. The Lord told the church in Laodicea that they were saying, "I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing" (Rev. 3:17). When a church or organization announces that they are rich saying things such as, "We are the storage house of Joseph" then the Lord is outside. Do you know what they meant by the storage house of Joseph? At his time, the whole land of Egypt was without food. They could get food only from Joseph. Saying such things is to already have fallen into the condition of Laodicea, thinking that they are wealthy and need nothing. The Lord told them that they "do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked." If you want to be received by God, you must be humble.