

God's Modesty

How many of you have children?

Ok, sorry, how many of you have BEEN children?

How many of you have siblings?

Pain in the butt?

How many have rules in the house?

Anyone have a list of rules posted somewhere in the house?

“Don't do this! Or Don't do that!”? Why did they tell you these things?

Yes, the fire is pretty but don't put your hand in there. Or your little sister.

Jeff in the street... can't stay mad for long

Little kids love stories and we read to them and they start to learn from the stories.

But we give them basic rules to live by, not because we are mean dictators, but because we love them and we don't ever want them to get hurt.

As they grow and begin to learn more and more, we give them rules to live by. Treat other people nice, be polite, say thank you and you're welcome,

The social rules of behavior.

Madison and the rocking horse.

Then you begin to learn about the world around you and we sent you to school and there are a whole other set of rules.

But your learning becomes more and more complex and you build upon your past teachings and experience and you come to understand much more complex ideas about wisdom, society, people, behaviors.

And finally, you are mature enough to find a spouse and start a life of your own and pretty soon, you're making all the rules and worrying about your own children.

Adam and Eve disobedient children

The first books of the bible are the stories. Telling young humans about life. Then then they get big enough that Dad had to write down the rules **and they were carved in stone!**

All of the forty year exodus from Egypt to the promised land was a learning time and an instruction time for the Hebrews and finally in Leviticus and Deuteronomy all of the Hebrew laws were specifically laid out.

In the books of wisdom, God's children began to learn about life, human problems, human suffering and joy.

During all of this time, God is a strict Father. He instructs, commands, demands and punishes as you would punish insolent children, but by the end of this time God knows we are mature enough to understand His great plan.

Now he shows His maturity, His humility, God's modesty.

During all of the Old Testament there are prophecies of the Messiah. Great general to vanquish the Romans. Flaming chariots tongues of fire. Legions of angels.

Not God, not humble, not modest.

So God arrives on earth as a baby, to a poor family in a barn.

Humble, modest.

Only a few got it, Elizabeth, Nicodemus, the wise men.

And this is God's modesty. He created us, he taught us, he raised us and he came to live among us, as an equal in His humanity.

Definitions

hum·ble

'həmbəl/

adjective

adjective: humble; comparative adjective: humbler; superlative adjective: humblest

1.

having or showing a modest or low estimate of one's own importance.

"he was humble about his stature as one of rock history's most influential guitarists"

synonyms: meek, deferential, respectful, submissive, diffident, self-effacing, unassertive; unpresuming, **modest**, unassuming, self-deprecating;

subdued, chastened

"her bearing was humble"

antonyms: proud, overbearing

(of an action or thought) offered with or affected by a modest estimate of one's own importance.

"my humble apologies"

2.

of low social, administrative, or political rank.

"she came from a humble, unprivileged background"

synonyms: lowly, working-class, lower-class, poor, undistinguished, mean, **modest**, ignoble, low-born, plebeian, underprivileged; common, ordinary, simple, inferior, unremarkable, insignificant, inconsequential

"a humble background"

mod·est

'mädəst/

adjective

adjective: modest

1.

unassuming or moderate in the estimation of one's abilities or achievements.

"he was a very modest man, refusing to take any credit for the enterprise"

synonyms: self-effacing, self-deprecating, **humble**, unpretentious, unassuming, unpresuming, unostentatious, unshowy, unflashy; shy, bashful, self-conscious, diffident, reserved, reticent, coy

"she was modest about her poetry"