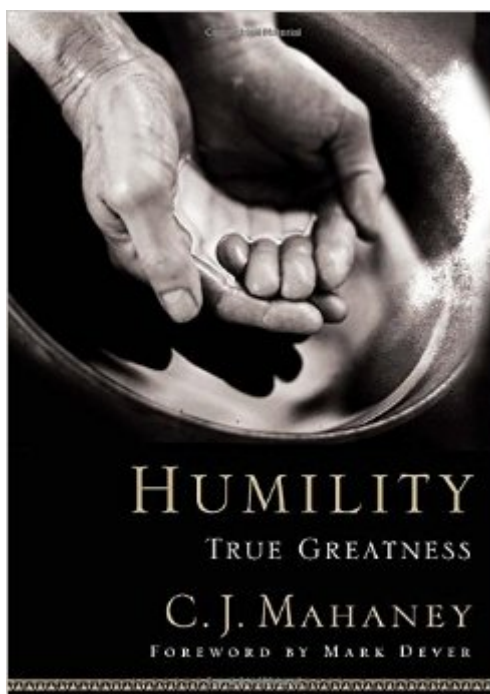


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Humility: True Greatness



Synopsis

Be Transformed by Christ's Example • God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. • 1 Peter 5:5 A battle rages within every one of us every day. It's the clash between our sense of stubborn self-sufficiency and God's call to recognize that we're really nothing without Him. It's pride versus humility. And it's a fight we can't win without looking repeatedly to Christ and the cross. C. J. Mahaney raises a battle cry to daily, diligently, and deliberately weaken our greatest enemy (pride) and cultivate our greatest friend (humility). His thorough examination clarifies misconceptions, revealing the truth about why God detests pride and turns His active attention to the humble. Because pride is never passive, defeating it demands an intentional attack. The blessing that follows is God's abundant favor. • This is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit. • Isaiah 66:2, ESV God clearly states that He is drawn to the humble. He's also clear that He opposes the proud. These two, humility and pride, cannot coexist. Where one is fostered, the other is defeated. Which will you pursue? C. J. Mahaney paints a striking picture of the daily battle quietly raging within every Christian and asks whether you will passively accommodate the enemy of your soul, pride, or actively cultivate your best friend, humility. When you acknowledge the deception of pride and intentionally humble yourself, you become free to savor abundant mercies and unlikely graces. You will find a new life is yours • a life God richly favors. A God-glorifying life you don't want to miss. • C. J. Mahaney is not humble. At least, that's what he'll tell you. And that's one reason he's so well qualified to write this book. • -Mark E. Dever, Senior pastor, Capitol Hill Baptist Church, Author, Nine Marks of a Healthy Church • A much-needed wake-up call on this important subject. I highly recommend this book. • -Jerry Bridges, Author of The Pursuit of Holiness • This is the right book from the right man at the right time. • -R. Albert Mohler, Jr., President, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Story Behind the Book • Given pride's pervasive presence in my life, I come to this book in holy fear, yet inspired by God's promises to be humble and sobered by his warnings to the proud (Isaiah 66:2b, 1 Peter 5:5b). Scripture reveals to us that, while pride was the first and most serious sin, God is decisively drawn to humility and is specifically supportive of the humble. Only Christ has fully obeyed Isaiah 66:2b (• This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word •), yet He did so as our representative! How marvelous that in our daily battle against pride we can rely on God's grace, through the gospel, and thus bring honor and glory to God. • • C. J. Mahaney

Book Information

Hardcover: 176 pages

Publisher: Multnomah (September 30, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1590523261

ISBN-13: 978-1590523261

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.6 x 7.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (172 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #45,748 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #134 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Ministry & Evangelism > Discipleship](#) #178 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Ethics & Morality](#) #980 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Living > Spiritual Growth](#)

Customer Reviews

There is a certain irony in the pursuit of humility. We see a glimpse of that in the title of this book, Humility: True Greatness. Humility is true greatness. The pursuit of humility and the pursuit of greatness are one and the same, provided that we seek greatness as defined by the Creator. I have never met C.J. Mahaney (though hope to some day), but from all accounts he is well-qualified to write a book on such a difficult subject. And this is a difficult topic. After all, how can a person write a book on humility without sounding like he feels he is most qualified? The truth is he can, provided he uses the Scripture as the foundation for his teaching. And that is exactly what Mahaney does. The book is divided into three sections. Part one deals with the battle of humility versus pride, part two with our Savior and the secret of true greatness and part three with the practice of true humility. In the first part, Mahaney defines humility and shows how true humility is nothing less than a battle against the pride that lives deep within every heart. "Humility is honestly assessing ourselves in the light of God's holiness and our sinfulness." These two realities must be the foundation of any definition of humility: our sinfulness and God's holiness. This is precisely why true greatness can only be achieved by followers of Jesus Christ, for only they have had their eyes opened by the Holy Spirit to see the depth of their own depravity and the overwhelming holiness of God. Mahaney teaches, rightly I believe, that God hates the sin of pride above all other sin. This is a sin that plagues all humans, though it manifests itself in different ways. So the issue facing the believer is he examines his life is not if pride is present, but where it is present.

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