

# Humility or Defeatism

## Part One

# Humility or Defeatism

- Two common inaccuracies held by brethren are:
- Associating confidence with pride.
  - They are not the same thing: confidence is assurance in Christ; pride is trust in the self
  - They do not come from the same place; confidence comes from blessings in Christ; pride comes from trust in the self

# Humility or Defeatism

- Two common inaccuracies held by brethren are:
- Associating confidence with pride.
  - They are not viewed the same in the scriptures:
  - Those who are confident accomplish things in the name of the Lord (Phil. 4:13)
  - Those who are proud fall into sin (1Cor. 10:12)
  - “Be certain your passion for equality is not an attempt to portray your envy as a virtue.”

# Humility or Defeatism

- Two common inaccuracies held by brethren are:
- Associating humility with defeatism
  - Humility is: “I can’t do it without the Lord.”
  - Defeatism is: “I can’t do it.”
  - Humility is: “I am weak, but God will help me get through.”
  - Defeatism is: “I am weak, and that’s just the way it is.”
  - Humility is: “I am amazed that God loves me.”
  - Defeatism is: “I am nothing.”

# Defeatism

- Defeatism is acceptance of defeat without struggle. It is an attitude of accepting, expecting, or being resigned to defeat. The term is commonly used in the context of war to denote treason: a soldier is defeatist if he refuses to fight because he thinks it inevitable that the battle will be lost and thus there is no point in fighting.

# Defeatism

- Heb. 12:1-3 - “Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.”

# Defeatism

- Heb. 12:1 uses two different words to describe those things that slow us down and create obstacles in our lives.
- Weight (encumbrance). Anything that keeps us from effectively living the Christian life

# Defeatism

- A poor self-image
- A defeatist attitude
- Feelings of rejection
- Perfectionism
- Fear of failure
- Procrastination

# Defeatism

- A claim of a lack of self-control
- A lack of focus
- A determined negative attitude
- A suspicious attitude
- Indecision
- A habit of shifting blame

# Defeatism

- Heb. 12:1 uses two different words to describe those things that slow us down and create obstacles in our lives.
- Sin. How does sin hinder progress?

# Defeatism

- It is our primary area of vulnerability
- It uses resources because it demands we constantly remain on guard
- It is a trap difficult to get out of
- It divides our mind when we think about it
- It interferes our relationships with others
- It intrudes on our thoughts when we pray
- It attacks our self-confidence
- It hinders our relationship with God

# Defeatism

- We must remove anything that slows us down
  - Admitting to the Lord that we have encumbrances in our lives.
  - Acknowledging our entangling sin.
  - Taking responsibility for the baggage, no matter where it came from.
  - Making a definite decision to deal with it.

# Defeatism

- We must remove anything that slows us down
  - Laying it aside because it doesn't fit our chosen life
  - Relying on Christ's strength to put it down and walk away
  - Understand that it is self-discipline that determines the outcome.
  - Work hard on a daily basis to develop it, and over time it will come