

## Humility in Grace

David tried; you have to give him that. He was imperfect and his flaws, especially the public ones, were bloody and ugly and out there for everyone to see. Who would know better than David that he did not deserve God's grace? Yet, when his heart was troubled over the fact that he sat in his great kingdom hall with the Ark of the Covenant still wanted for a resting place, David showed why he was a man after God's own heart (1 Samuel 13:14). His chief concern was for God and His people, not himself. "And it came to pass, when the king sat in his house, and the LORD had given him rest round about from all his enemies; That the king said unto Nathan the prophet, See now, I dwell in an house of cedar, but the ark of God dwelleth within curtains" (2 Samuel 7:1-2).

When Nathan finished delivering God's wonderful vote of confidence for David's concern, David was overjoyed, overcome, and overwhelmed. One of the most beautiful examples of gratitude every uttered from lips in praise are those of David in his thanksgiving for God's grace.

Then went king David in, and sat before the LORD, and he said, Who *am* I, O Lord GOD? and what *is* my house, that thou hast brought me hitherto? And this was yet a small thing in thy sight, O Lord GOD; but thou hast spoken also of thy servant's house for a great while to come. And *is* this the manner of man, O Lord GOD? And what can David say more unto thee? for thou, Lord GOD, knowest thy servant. For thy word's sake, and according to thine own heart, hast thou done all these great things, to make thy servant know *them*. Wherefore thou art great, O LORD God: for *there is* none like thee, neither *is there any* God beside thee, according to all that we have heard with our ears. And what one nation in the earth *is* like thy people, *even* like Israel, whom God went to redeem for a people to himself, and to make him a name, and to do for you great things and terrible, for thy land, before thy people, which thou redeemedst to thee from Egypt, *from* the nations and their gods? (2 Samuel 7:18-23).

His confession should drive us to our knees. Who are we, that God should bless us with His only begotten Son (John 3:16), that we should realize forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38) and that we should have a hope of eternal life (Titus 3:7)? With so little "effort," as it were, He gives us strength far beyond our ability (Philippians 4:13), protection from all possible harm (Romans 8:31-39), and all this grace, in spite of what we really are – and He **knows** what we really are (Psalm 139:7-12). There is, indeed, no God like our God. What a blessing to be called a "Christian" in a world wounded with strife and sorrow, struggling to make sense of the chaos, and groping in darkness for some thread of hope.