

The Way to the Top

Scripture: James 4:10
1 Peter 5:6
Philippians 2:8-9

- A. Taking the "low road"
 - 1. Being willing to do the thankless jobs
 - 2. Working without recognition
- B. Walking in obedience to God
- C. Waiting for God to exalt you

Introduction

The Christian life has been designed to be totally in contrast to the philosophy of our society. Whereas our society says, "Exalt yourself", God tells the Christian, "Humility first, exaltation later".

I. The pattern of Jesus life

Philippians 2:8-9 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name.

- A. His position with the Father
 - 1. Co-equal with God
 - 2. Having dominion and majesty
- B. His humiliation through his life and suffering
 - 1. His birth
 - 2. His ministry -- no place to lay his head
 - 3. His death
- C. Christ exalted above all

II. The pattern of the apostles' lives

Philippians 3:7-8a But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord....

- A. Their pattern of suffering
- B. Their pattern of sacrifice
 - ...neither count I my life dear to myself....
- C. Their pattern of live investment

III. The pattern for the Christian

1 Peter 5:6 Humble yourself therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time.