

# ROMANS TWELVE

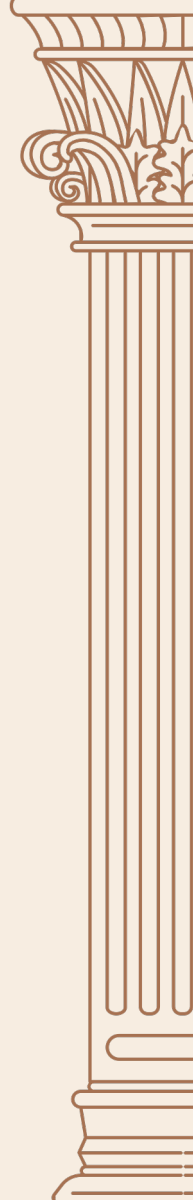


VERSE 1-6 | Page 1616



## ROMANS 12:3

“...For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has distributed to each of you. “





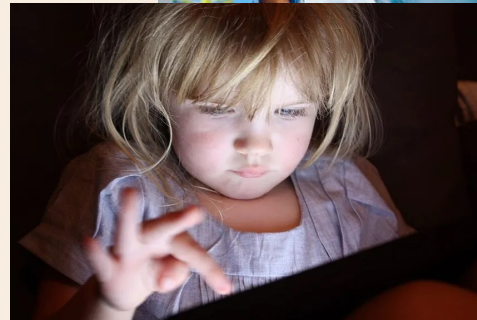
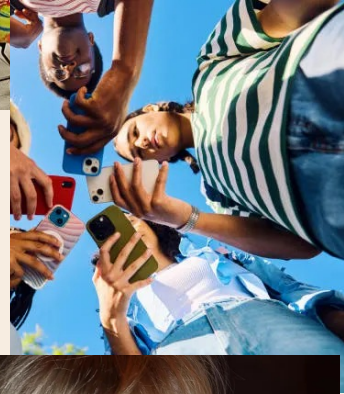
ROMANS 12:3

“...think of yourself with  
sober judgment...”

“Clear headed”

# A PRIDE GENERATING CULTURE

Luxury  
Consumption  
Medicine  
Social Media(s)  
Entertainment  
Democracy  
Technology  
Etc...  
It's all about YOU!!!





PURSUE A SOUND MIND.  
HUMILITY IS SOUNDNESS.

Mark 5:15, Luke 8:35, Romans 12:3, 2 Corinthians 5:13,  
Titus 2:6, 1 Peter 4:7



PURSUE A SOUND MIND.

HUMILITY IS THE  
VIRTUE-ENABLING  
VIRTUE.



PURSUE A SOUND MIND.

PRIDE IS THE VIRTUE-  
DISABLING VICE.



PURSUE HUMILITY.

Step 1:

# 1. REJECT ARROGANCE

Sober minds face the impulse and  
perspective of pride



## **Proverbs 26:12**

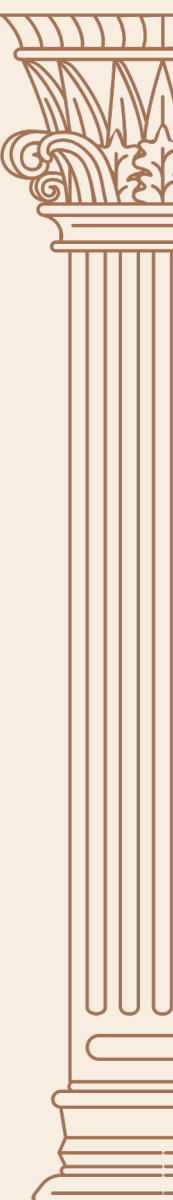
“Do you see a man who is wise in his own eyes?  
There is more hope for a fool than for him.”

## **Proverbs 3:34**

“Toward the scorers he is scornful, but to the  
humble he gives favor.”

## **1 Peter 5:5**

“All of you, clothe yourselves with humility  
towards one another, because, ‘God opposes  
the proud but gives grace to the humble.’”





PURSUE HUMILITY.

PRIDE IS THE VIRTUE  
DISABLING VICE.

Pride makes us **fragile** by making  
us both **blind** and **weak**.



# PRIDE IS BLINDNESS THROUGH INFLATION

Pride always produces a mixture of all the lesser vices: Unforgiveness, fractiousness, mocking/scoffing, short sightedness, unteachable, insensitivity, complacency, futility in resisting evil, self justification, hypocrisy, incuriousness/Know it all, consumeristic, objectifying, easily manipulated by flattery and bias, false sophistication/intellectualism/scientism, Racial and sexist bigotries, dishonoring of parents and institutions, contempt of children...

All of these require blindness by inflation to grow



Good  
News:

# PRIDE FACILITATES THE WRATH OF GOD



“Haughtiness”  
(inflation) is self-  
policing by God’s  
good design.

“Common Virtue”

By lifting ourselves  
up wrongly, the flesh  
is aggravated, and we  
turn on each other.



Good  
News:

# PRIDE FACILITATES THE WRATH OF GOD



“Haughtiness” (inflation) is self-defeating by God’s good design.

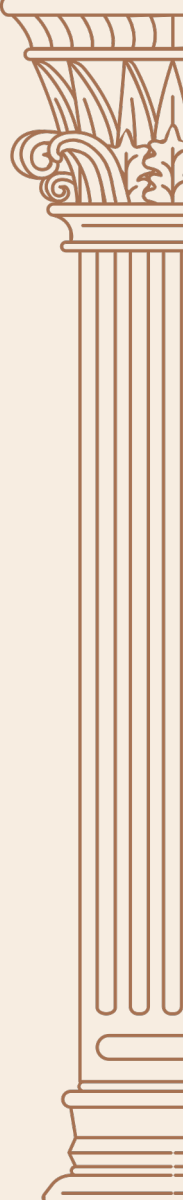
“Tall Poppy Syndrome.”

Pride produces envy & harms discernment: we tear down people of real merit—impoverishing ourselves.



## Charles Simeon:


“Nothing makes a person more contemptible than vanity: it always defeats its own ends, and sinks us in the esteem of the very people whose applause we crave. But quite apart from that, the more we claim for ourselves, the less people will be willing to grant us; and if they cannot deny us some credit on the points where we excel, they will be sure to hunt out faults to weigh against our real strengths—so that, on the whole, we gain as little as possible...”

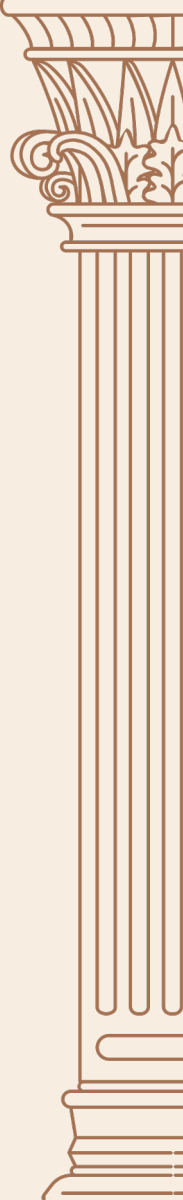
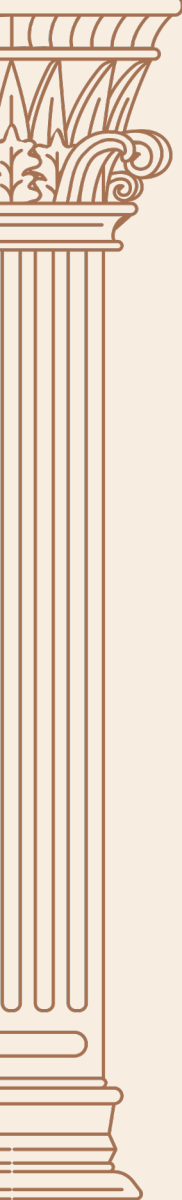




## Charles Simeon:

...Modesty, on the other hand, lends force to all our other strengths; and the more humbly we bear our honors, the more generous even the most envious of our rivals will be in granting them. To "prefer others in honor before ourselves" is the way to disarm their hostility, to allay their jealousies, to win their regard; so that, even if we had no higher aim than the advancement of ourselves in others' esteem, we should seek it not through conceit and self-preference, but through a sober estimate of ourselves and modesty in our whole bearing. To this effect the wisest of men has taught us, "To seek our own glory is not glory"; on the contrary, "when pride comes, then comes shame, but with the lowly is wisdom."

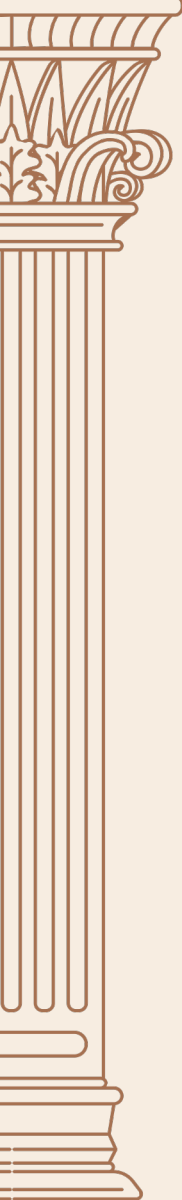




Nothing shrinks a person like vanity. It always backfires. The very people whose applause we crave? They walk away thinking less of us.

Because here's the truth: the more we grab for ourselves, the less anyone wants to give. They can't deny you're gifted—so instead they go digging for flaws. They'll weigh every strength against a fault until you've gained nothing.

But modesty? Modesty multiplies everything you've got. Carry your honors humbly, and watch how freely people hand them to you—even the rival who can't stand you.



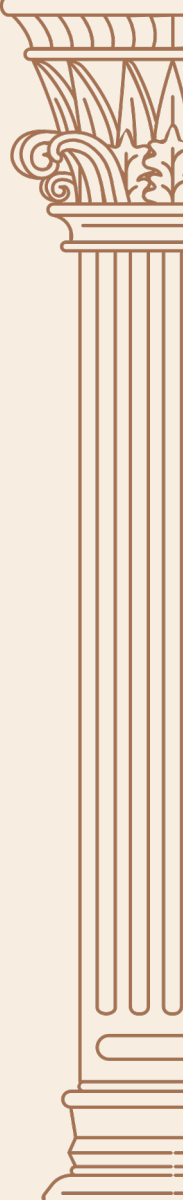
Put others first, and you disarm the enemy. You quiet the jealousy. You win the respect.

So even if all you wanted was to be lifted higher in people's eyes—pride won't get you there. Showing off won't get you there. Only an honest look at yourself, and a humble walk, will.

Because the wisest man who ever lived said it plain:

Chase your own glory, and it isn't glory at all. When pride shows up—shame walks in right behind it.

But wisdom? Wisdom keeps company with the humble.



# PRIDE RUINS EVERYTHING

It produces blindness and fragility

It grows every vice

It inhibits every virtue

It destroys human fellowship

It multiplies injustices

It defeats even our vain ambitions.

Pride is nothing more than aggressive and ambitious foolishness- a perpetual drunkenness of attitude.





# DEFLATE YOUR PRIDE

Treat pride as a constant, ruthless, ruinous enemy that is always infiltrating – and always start with YOURSELF.



Step 2:

## 2. HUMILITY IS SOBER- MINDEDNESS

Humility isn't self-humiliation  
or a form of dishonesty.

# OVER AND UNDER INFLATION

Neither one does its job and lasts

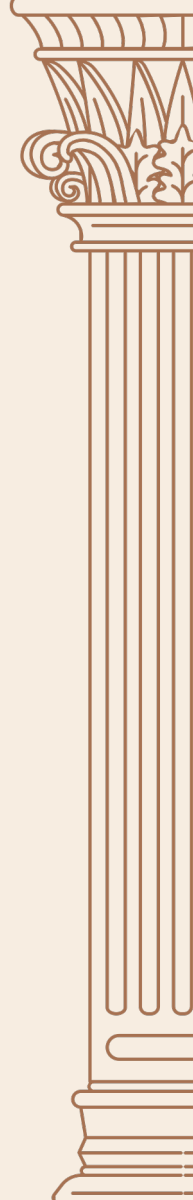




## C.S. LEWIS:

Humility isn't pretty women thinking they are ugly or clever men thinking they are fools.

Humility isn't thinking less of yourself.  
It is thinking of yourself less.



Deflation

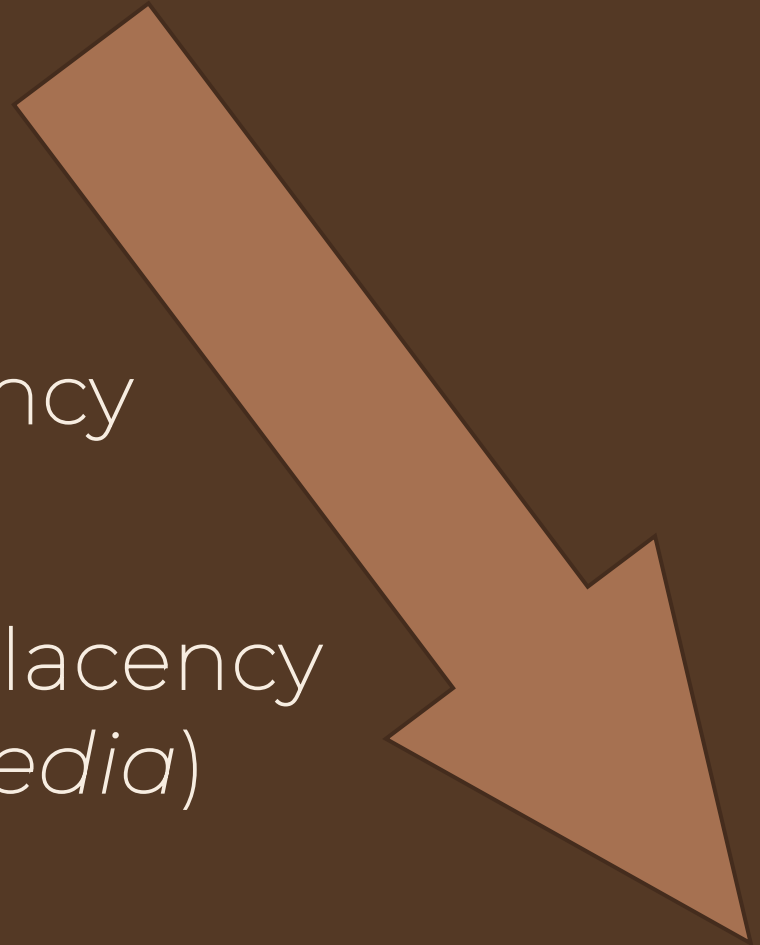
Despondency

Complacency  
(*Acedia*)

Abdication



With a side salad of  
victimized  
self-justification





PURSUE MODESTY OF MIND.

HUMILITY IS THE  
VIRTUE-ENABLING  
VIRTUE.



# VIRTUES OF HUMILITY



**Modesty-** sobriety about seeking attention.

**Piety-** earnest desire for the good (anti-mockery).

**Interest-** desire to see and grow wise.

**Compassion-** ability to see others.

**Godliness-** desire for real goodness (anti-vanity).

**Prudence-** able to see broadly, and apply wisdom.

**Joy-** easily pleased in wholesome things.

**Peace-** unperturbed by our place in all things.

Etc.



Step 3:

# 3. THINK ABOUT YOUR PORTION OF FAITH

“...by the measure of faith God has  
apportioned to you...”

# WHY “PORTION OF FAITH”

1. God given faith **is** sound mindedness
2. Other options are invalid (graces)
3. This measure can be “improved upon”
4. It grows humility and Faith in grace

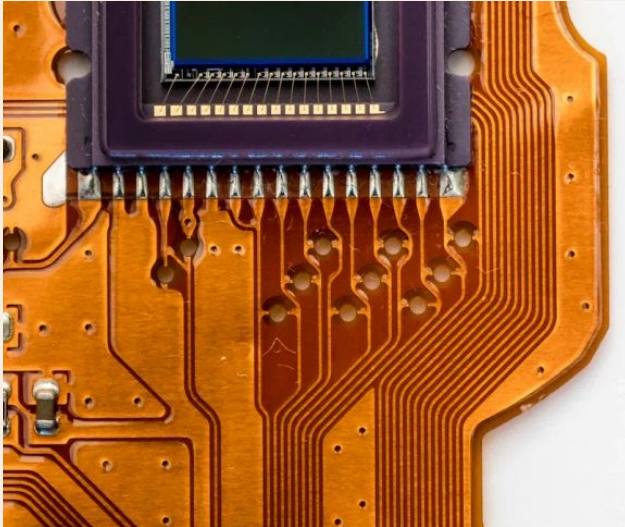
# Appropriating Value

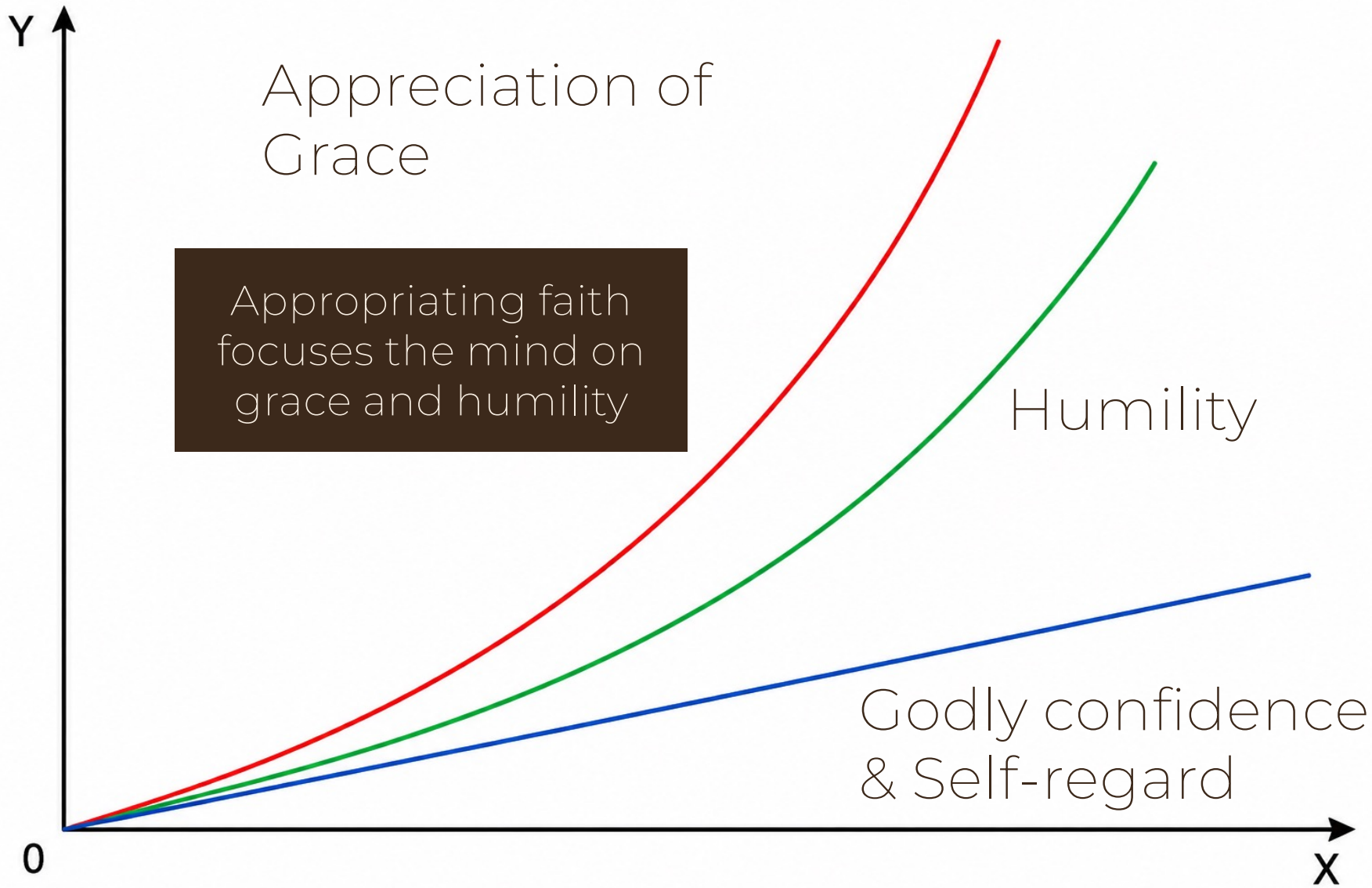


“the point being that the gap between the crude natural item and the useful finished one is created almost entirely by human work.”

John Locke, Second Treatise on Government. Ch 5, 1689

# Appropriating Value







# CONTEMPLATE:

1. God's Mercies
2. God's Graces
3. Responsibilities to be a living sacrifice.
4. Your portion of faith

From, and as compared to, Christ.



# ROMANS TWELVE

