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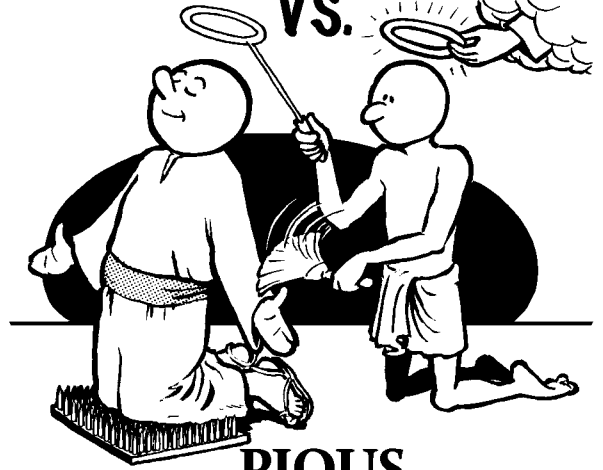
IT LIKES TO THINK OF ITSELF AS ALL-POWERFUL, ALL-KNOWING, ALL-SEEING, ETC.

IT'S ALWAYS VINDICATING ITSELF, PROTECTING ITSELF, JUSTIFYING ITSELF, AND TRYING TO PROVE THAT IT NEEDS NO HELP!

IT'S JUST THE INBORN SINFUL NATURE OF MAN TO WANT GLORY AND TO NOT WANT TO ADMIT WEAKNESS OR GUILT.

HONEST HUMILITY

VS.



PIOUS PERFECTION

CONTRARY TO WHAT SOME PEOPLE THINK, AN ADMISSION OF ERROR IS A SIGN OF INNER-STRENGTH RATHER THAN A SIGN OF WEAKNESS! BEING UNABLE TO ADMIT THE TRUTH, IS A TRULY SERIOUS WEAKNESS, EVEN THOUGH IT MAY BE MAN'S NATURAL TENDENCY!

OVERCOMING NEGATIVE, NATURAL TENDENCIES CAN BE VERY DIFFICULT, BUT IT'S A LOT EASIER WITH POSITIVE, SUPER-NATURAL HELP! THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT JESUS IS READY AND WILLING TO GIVE THAT HELP TO ANYONE WHO ASKS FOR IT! ALL IT TAKES IS A SIMPLE, SINCERE PRAYER LIKE THIS :

"JESUS, THANK YOU FOR LOVING ME ENOUGH TO DIE FOR MY SINS THAT I MIGHT BE SAVED. I ACCEPT YOUR FREE GIFT OF ETERNAL LIFE. HELP ME TO GET RID OF THE MASKS OF PRIDE AND FALSE FRONTS THAT HINDER ME FROM GIVING AND RECEIVING LOVE. I WANT THAT LOVE IN MY LIFE, AND I ASK FOR YOUR HELP AND GUIDANCE. THANK YOU!"

IF YOU'RE TRUSTING SO MUCH IN YOUR OWN RIGHTEOUSNESS, YOUR OWN PERFECTION, ...

...IT BECOMES ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO CONFESS YOUR OWN MISTAKES AND SHORTCOMINGS, ...

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GOD'S IDEA OF SAINTLINESS: --THE PERSON WHO KNOWS HE'S A SINNER AND THEREFORE GIVES GOD ALL THE GLORY FOR ANYTHING GOOD HE'S DONE!

BUT ONLY TENDS TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE, BECAUSE WHEN WE CANNOT BE HONEST WITH OURSELVES WE CANNOT BE GOD OR OTHERS! AND THE RESULT IS ONE AWFUL MESS!

AND ALTHOUGH YOU NO LONGER FEEL QUITE AS ANGELIC, YOU'RE A WHOLE LOT MORE SAINTLY ACCORDING TO GOD'S IDEA OF SAINTLINESS:

YOU'RE A SINNER REMINDS YOU THAT YOU'RE NO PICTURE OF PURITY AND INNOCENCE!

YOU'LL MAKE A MESS OF YOUR OWN LIFE, HURT ALL THOSE ASSOCIATED WITH YOU, AND HURT GOD MOST OF ALL! YOU'LL ALSO HINDER YOUR REPUTATION AND TESTIMONY TO OTHERS!

...SO WE CAN STAND TO FACE OURSELVES!

...EXONERATE AND ABSOLVE OURSELVES

...DEFEND OURSELVES...

SO WE TRY TO EXCUSE OURSELVES...

...AND IT NEARLY SHATTERS YOUR SELF-RELIANCE, BECAUSE IT PROVES THAT YOU ARE NOT PERFECT--

...BUT YOU HATE TO ADMIT IT EVEN TO YOURSELF!

...BECAUSE IT ALMOST DESTROYS YOUR OWN SELF-CONFIDENCE...

THE HARDEST ONE TO CONFESS OUR FAULTS TO IS OURSELF! BECAUSE IT'S SO DISCOURAGING, HUMILIATING AND

...IT NEARLY SHATTERS YOUR SELF-RELIANCE, BECAUSE IT PROVES THAT YOU ARE NOT PERFECT--

DADDY! MISTAKES SHORTCOMINGS!

...BECAUSE IT ALMOST DESTROYS YOUR OWN SELF-CONFIDENCE...

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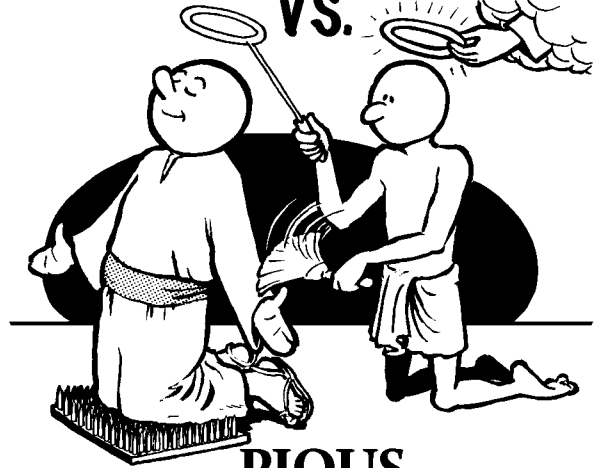
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