

Franckesche Stiftungen zu Halle

Mehrsprachiges Gesprächsbuch von [Benjamin Schultze].

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Nachwort

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Among all the Christian Virtues, the Virtue
of humility is the highest and best, but now a days
very rare. The reaſon thereof is, because all men
naturally are born without this humility and there
is ſeldom heard of in the management of the common
Education, in order to teach the humility both in
the familys at home or in the publick Schools. But on
the contrary all the World is fond of the naturall course
which does abhor nothing more than the virtue of
humility. There are schools enough in the countys and
the Youth does learn therein many languages and
good Morals fit for the Uſe of this Life, but as for the
Leſon concerning the instruction of the virtue of
humility, there is not ſuch a thing as to be found all
over the World. This is a ſtrange matter in deed, es-
pecially in the Countys, where the Christian Religion
is openly profeged. It is therefore no wonder at
all, that this moſt excellent Virtue is become as
rare as anything else upon the earth, although the
humility is the foundation of all the rest of the other
virtues. I ſay, not unmindful, the foundation of all other
virtues whatſoever. Because without this humility

all the other Virtues do loose their own Price and
noble Character. Pray, Gentlemen, give me leave to
ask You but one word: the Devotion in Prayers set
and the Worship of GOD, is the chiefest office we are
obliged to perform as our duty, but in case this devotion
and Worship of GOD is accomplished without humility?
You will certainly say; they are both good for nothing, and
I am with You of the same Opinion. Now what is to
be done? what is the Advice, that we may be acquir-
ed with this humility? It is high time to look for her,
to draw nearer to her lodging, to learn in her school so that
we may be brought into her divine Light in order to
become happy in this World and in that to come. Here
is our Lord JESUS Christ, the Son of God, the most
Excellent Doctor, coming down from above heaven to
teach this principall Virtue of humility. He himself
is the only Pattern, by which we may learn this humili-
ty. He teacheth this Virtue by words; he teacheth also
by his Deeds. Because all what we do observe on
Him, is but a Doctrine, recommending divine Virtues
and especially, this noble Virtue of humility. In all his
Conversation, Carriage, behavior, Speech and Works we
do see, hear and perceive nothing else but Humility.

But we must here not fancy, that our Lord's
Humility only has been outwardly, no, by no means
his Humility was as really within as without. Be-
cause humility consisteth not in exterior things or words
but in the very root of the heart. Therefore saith He:
I am meek and humble of Heart. Seeing now,
Gentlemen, on one side, that the Virtue of humility is
of an exceeding high Estimation and that absolutely ne-
cessary, that no body without her Passport can enter the
limits of heaven; but on the other side, that our Lord
Jesus Christ teacheth her freely, granting to every one
the admittance in his School, to the very end that we
all may become partakers of his Humility. Let us
therefore from this very moment begin to study for the
future nothing so earnestly as this Lesson! Let us endeu-
rover, how we shall become humble. To change only the
outward manners, this will be not enough, but we must
go on further and change our very heart, or to speak
plainly, to be changed by the grace and help of God
Almighty into the Image of Jesus Christ. And this
must be done by true repentance and contrition of
the soul, as forsaking and dying the whole world with
all vanities. May Jesus Christ, the Author of Hu-
mility teach us this worty Lesson! May it

please ^Him to make us altogether humble in
our very heart and daily Conversation; is, Dear
Gentlemen, at present, the good Wish of Your
most humble Servant.