

A Seat in Church

The story is told of a plainly dressed man who entered a church in the Netherlands and took a seat near the front. A few minutes later, a woman walked down the aisle, saw the stranger in the place where she always sat, and curtly asked him to leave.

He quietly got up and moved to a section reserved for the poor.

When the meeting was over, a friend of the woman asked her if she knew the man she had ordered out of her seat. "No," she replied. Her friend then informed her, "The man you ordered out of your seat was King Oscar of Sweden. He is here visiting the Queen."

The woman was greatly embarrassed, and wished she had shown the king the courtesy of giving up her seat. But it was too late. The king had left.

Courtesy blossoms in a heart that is humble. The qualities of gentleness and courtesy describe how we should be in our interactions with our residents, their families and with one another.

Be tenderhearted, be courteous. 1 Peter 3:8

--Beecher Hunter