

PRIDE, A NEVER ENDING PROBLEM

“Pride is the king of vices. . . it is the first of the pallbearers of the soul. . . other vices destroy only their opposite virtues, as wantonness destroys chastity; greed destroys temperance; anger destroys gentleness; but PRIDE DESTROYS ALL VIRTUES.”

James 4:6 But He gives a greater grace. Therefore [it] says, "God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble." (NASB)

Romans 12:3 For through the grace given to me I say to every man among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure (*metron*) of faith. (NASB)

God has given to each Christian a measured ability that is appropriate to or corresponds to his own faith. JC

Luke 18:11-12 "The Pharisee stood and was praying thus to himself, 'God, I thank Thee that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax-gatherer. 12 'I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.' (NASB)

I. PRIDE IS SIN.

Proverbs 21:4 An high look, and a proud heart, [and] the plowing of the wicked, [is] sin. (KJV)

Proverbs 21:4 Haughty eyes and a proud heart, The lamp of the wicked, is sin. (NASB) {*Haughty means scornfully and condescendingly proud. Having or showing great pride in oneself and disdain, contempt, or scorn for others; proud; arrogant.*}

II. PRIDE IS HATEFUL TO GOD AND HIS CHRIST.

Proverbs 6:16-17 There are six things which the LORD hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, And hands that shed innocent blood, (NASB)

Proverbs 16:5 Everyone who is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD; Assuredly, he will not be unpunished. (NASB)

Proverbs 8:12-13 "I, wisdom [skill from God], dwell with prudence [shrewdness], And I find knowledge [and] discretion. 13 "The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; Pride and arrogance and the evil way, And the perverted mouth, I hate.

III. PRIDE ORIGINATES IN:

A. Self-righteousness

Lu 18:11 The Pharisee stood [It implies taking up his position pretentiously] and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank thee that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.

B. Religious privileges

Zephaniah 3:11 "In that day you will feel no shame because of all your deeds By which you have rebelled against Me; For then I will remove from your midst Your proud, exulting ones, And you will never again be haughty On My holy mountain. (NASB)

C. Unsanctified knowledge

1 Corinthians 8:1 Now concerning things sacrificed to idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge makes arrogant, but love edifies. (NASB)

D. Inexperience

1 Timothy 3:6 [and] not a new convert, lest he become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil. (NASB)

E. Possession of power

Leviticus 26:19 'And I will also break down your pride of power; I will also make your sky like iron and your earth like bronze. (NASB)

F. Possession of wealth

2 Kings 20:13 And Hezekiah listened to them, and showed them all his treasure house, the silver and the gold and the spices and the precious oil and the house of his armor and all that was found in his treasures. There was nothing in his house, nor in all his dominion, that Hezekiah did not show them. (NASB)

IV. PRIDE IS FORBIDDEN

Romans 12:3 For through the grace given to me I say to every man among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith. (NASB)

Romans 12:16 Be of the same mind [have the same sentiments and feelings] toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate [go along with, to be at home with] with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation. (NASB)

V. PRIDE DEFILES A MAN

Mark 7:20-22 And He was saying, "That which proceeds out of the man, that is what defiles the man. 21 "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, 22 deeds of coveting [and] wickedness, [as well as] deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride [and] foolishness. (NASB)

VI. PRIDE HARDENS THE MIND

Daniel 5:20 "But when his heart was lifted up and his spirit became so proud that he behaved arrogantly, he was deposed from his royal throne, and [his] glory was taken away from him. (NASB)

VII. PRIDE, THE SAINTS

A. Give not away to pride.

Psalms 131:1 ...O LORD, my heart is not proud, nor my eyes haughty; Nor do I involve myself in great matters, Or in things too difficult for me. (NASB)

Psalms 139:5-6 Thou hast enclosed me behind and before, And laid Thy hand upon me. 6 [Such] knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is [too] high, I cannot attain to it. (NASB)

Romans 11:33 Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways! (NASB)

Romans 16:17 Now I urge you, brethren, keep your eye on those who caused dissensions and hindrances contrary to the teaching which you learned, and turn away from them. (NASB)

1 Timothy 6:3-4 If anyone advocates a different doctrine, and does not agree with sound words, those of our Lord Jesus Christ, and with the doctrine conforming to godliness, 4 he is conceited [and] understands nothing; but he has a morbid interest in controversial questions and disputes about words, out of which arise envy, strife, abusive language, evil suspicions, (NASB)

Titus 3:9 But shun foolish controversies and genealogies and strife and disputes about the Law; for they are unprofitable and worthless. (NASB)

B. Respect not, in others

Psalms 40:4 How blessed is the man who has made the LORD his trust, And has not turned to the proud, nor to those who lapse into falsehood. (NASB)

C. Mourn over, in others

Jeremiah 13:17 But if you will not listen to it, My soul will sob in secret for [such] pride; And my eyes will bitterly weep And flow down with tears, Because the flock of the LORD has been taken captive. (NASB)

D. Hate, in others

Psalms 101:5 Whoever secretly slanders his neighbor, him I will destroy; No one who has a haughty look and an arrogant heart will I endure. (NASB)

VIII. PRIDE, A HINDRANCE TO SEEKING GOD

Psalm 10:4 The wicked, in the haughtiness of his countenance, does not seek [Him.] All his thoughts are, "There is no God." (NASB)

Hosea 7:10 Though the pride of Israel testifies against him, Yet they have neither returned to the LORD their God, Nor have they sought Him, for all this. (NASB)

IX. PRIDE, A HINDRANCE TO IMPROVEMENT

Proverbs 26:12 Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him. (NASB)

X. PRIDE, A CHARACTERISTIC OF

A. The devil

1 Timothy 3:6 [and] not a new convert, lest he become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil. (NASB)

B. The world

1 John 2:16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. (NASB)

C. False teachers

1 Timothy 6:3-4 If anyone advocates a different doctrine, and does not agree with sound words, those of our Lord Jesus Christ, and with the doctrine conforming to godliness, 4 he is conceited [and] understands nothing; but he has a morbid interest in controversial questions and disputes about words, out of which arise envy, strife, abusive language, evil suspicions, (NASB)

D. The wicked . **Habakkuk 2:4-5** "Behold, as for the proud one, His soul is not right within him; But the righteous will live by his faith. 5 "Furthermore, wine betrays the haughty man, So that he does not stay at home. He enlarges his appetite like Sheol, And he is like death, never satisfied. He also gathers to himself all nations And collects to himself all peoples. (NASB)

Romans 1:30 slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, (NASB)

XI. PRIDE COMES FROM THE HEART

Mark 7:20-22 And He was saying, "That which proceeds out of the man, that is what defiles the man. 21 "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, 22 deeds of coveting [and] wickedness, [as well as] deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride [and] foolishness. (NASB)

XII. PRIDE, THE WICKED ARE ENCOMPASSED WITH

Psalm 73:6 Therefore pride is their necklace; The garment of violence covers them. (NASB)

XIII. PRIDE LEADS MEN TO

A. Contempt and rejection of God's word and ministers

Jeremiah 43:2 that Azariah the son of Hoshai, and Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the arrogant men said to Jeremiah, "You are telling a lie! The LORD our God has not sent you to say, 'You are not to enter Egypt to reside there'; (NASB)

B. A persecuting spirit. **Psalm 10:2** In pride the wicked hotly pursue the afflicted; Let them be caught in the plots which they have devised. (NASB)

C. Wrath. **Proverbs 21:24** "Proud," "Haughty," "Scoffer," are his names, Who acts with insolent pride.

D. Contention. **Proverbs 13:10** Through presumption comes nothing but strife, But with those who receive counsel is wisdom. (NASB)

Proverbs 28:25 An arrogant man stirs up strife, But he who trusts in the LORD will prosper.

E. Self-deception

Jeremiah 49:16 "As for the terror of you, The arrogance of your heart has deceived you, O you who live in the clefts of the rock, Who occupy the height of the hill. Though you make your nest as high as an eagle's, I will bring you down from there," declares the LORD. (NASB)

XIV. PRIDE, EXHORTATION AGAINST

Jeremiah 13:15 Listen and give heed, do not be haughty, For the LORD has spoken. (NASB)

XV. PRIDE IS FOLLOWED BY

A. Shame

Proverbs 11:2 When pride comes, then comes dishonor, But with the humble is wisdom. (NASB)

B. Debasement

Proverbs 29:23 A man's pride will bring him low, But a humble spirit will obtain honor. (NASB)

C. Destruction

Proverbs 16:18 Pride [goes] before destruction, And a haughty spirit before stumbling. (NASB)

Proverbs 18:12 Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, But humility [goes] before honor.

XVI. PRIDE SHALL ABOUND IN THE LAST DAYS

2 Timothy 3:2 For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, (NASB)

XVII. WOE TO THOSE WHO HAVE PRIDE

Isaiah 28:1-3 Woe to the proud crown of the drunkards of Ephraim, And to the fading flower of its glorious beauty, Which is at the head of the fertile valley Of those who are overcome with wine! 2 Behold, the Lord has a strong and mighty [agent;] As a storm of hail, a tempest of destruction, Like a storm of mighty overflowing waters, He has cast [it] down to the earth with [His] hand. 3 The proud crown of the drunkards of Ephraim is trodden under foot. (NASB)

XVIII. THEY WHO ARE GUILTY OF PRIDE SHALL BE

A. Resisted. **James 4:6** But He gives a greater grace. Therefore [it] says, "God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble." (NASB)

B. Brought into contempt. **Isaiah 23:9** The LORD of hosts has planned it to defile the pride of all beauty, To despise all the honored of the earth. (NASB)

C. Recompensed. **Psalms 31:23** O love the LORD, all you His godly ones! The LORD preserves the faithful, And fully recompenses the proud doer. (NASB)

D. Marred. **Jeremiah 13:9** "Thus says the LORD, 'Just so will I destroy the pride of Judah and the great pride of Jerusalem. (NASB)

E. Subdued. **Exodus 11:10** And Moses and Aaron performed all these wonders before Pharaoh; yet the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he did not let the sons of Israel go out of his land. (NASB)

F. Brought low

Psalms 18:27 For Thou dost save an afflicted people; But haughty eyes Thou dost abase. (NASB)

G. Abased

Matthew 23:12 "And whoever exalts himself shall be humbled; and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted. (NASB)

H. Scattered

Luke 1:51 "He has done mighty deeds with His arm; He has scattered [those who were] proud in the thoughts of their heart. (NASB)

I. Punished

Malachi 4:1 "For behold, the day is coming, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant and every evildoer will be chaff; and the day that is coming will set them ablaze," says the LORD of hosts, "so that it will leave them neither root nor branch." (NASB)