

The Danger of Self Love



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Synonyms For Self-Love: Self-Esteem, Self-Image, Positive Self-Image, Self-Regard, Self-Worth, Self-Awareness, Personal Rights, Self-Fulfillment, Self-Confidence

Humanism - Humanity is god. Self-Fulfillment can make us gods - **2 Pet 1:4** For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, in order that by them you might become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.

Existentialism - Says "I" am god, the only god. It is the intense fundamental awareness of one's experience.

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II. A look at where credit and dependency go. God!

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And we certainly have value and worth. **Matt 16:26** "For what will a man be profited, if he gains the whole world, and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"

A heart attitude of humility must follow this information. **Jere 9:23-24** Thus says the LORD, "Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches; (24) but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD who exercises lovingkindness, justice, and righteousness on earth; for I delight in these things," declares the LORD.

Our boast is only in the Lord. **1 Cor 1:26-31** For consider your calling, brethren, that there were not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble; (27) but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong, (28) and the base things of the world and the despised, God has chosen, the things that are not, that He might nullify the things that are, (29) that no man should boast before God. (30) But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and

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Heb 1:3 And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high;

III. A look at pride as the essence of Self-Love.

2 Tim 3:1-5 But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. (2) For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, (3) unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, (4) treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God; (5) holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; and avoid such men as these.

Seek not glory.

Pro 25:27 It is not good to eat much honey, Nor is it glory to search out one's own glory.

Let another praise you.

Pro 27:2 Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; A stranger, and not your own lips.

IV. A fresh look at the Biblical alternative to Self-Love.

The alternative to Low Self-Esteem and High Self-Esteem is Self-Forgetting. Cease the inward focus.

Become unconscious to self or forget self.

Col 3:3-4 For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. (4) When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory;

Matt 16:24-25 Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. (25) "For whoever wishes to save his life shall lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake shall find it.

Rather than Self-Centered we become Other-Oriented. This does not mean elimination of all Self-Evaluation.

Rom 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. We have true value simply because we have been bought with a precious price.