

Doctrine of Pride (part 1)

1. Description and definition of pride. Two of the most common Greek words (HUPEREPHANOS, HUPSOMA) carry the ideas of inordinate ambition, unreasoned conceit, occupation with self, insolence, rejection of authority, vanity, self-justification, exaggeration of one's self and importance, divorcement of reality. The preposition HUP has in it the idea of "beyond."

a. Two basic ideas in pride: exaltation beyond reality and exaltation in self. In pride there is a great lust for ascendancy, superiority, and also a great deal of hypersensitivity. All proud people are wrong in estimation of self and source. There is a total exaggeration of importance

b. There is bona fide use of pride in the sense of spiritual self-esteem where there is a sense of value and esteem because and before God (2 Cor 7:4, 8:24; 9:2)

2. Arrogance looks down on others and is overconfident about the future,

James 4: 13-17 Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow, we shall go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit." 14 Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away. 15 Instead, you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and also do this or that." 16 But as it is, you boast in your arrogance; all such boasting is evil. 17 Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do, and does not do it, to him it is sin.

3. There are two sides of the coin of arrogance: self-pity in depression, and exaltation in arrogance.

4. Pride blinded Satan to God and the Word of God; it is the cause his fall (Isa 14:13-14; Ez 28:14-17).

a. Isa 14:13-14. Note aspects of pride: disorientation to the Word of God, self-ascendancy, inordinate ambition, "myself," lust for glory of God. Do not ever say that you "will" or "will not" do this or that on your own power.

b. Ez 28:17. Satan's "corruption" of his wisdom: Hiphil indicates that Satan corrupted his "wisdom" (CHACHMAH). Satan formerly was a lover and worshipper of God and Bible doctrine, but pride distorted all of that.

c. Satan reveals his own pride. He was so occupied with himself in the throne room of heaven that he lost all perspective. Once He thought "I will exalt myself and be like God," he lost all ability to understand Bible Doctrine and the greatness of God.

d. Pride is what blinded Satan in his fall and what continues to blind him to God and His Word. He is living under a delusion. The greatest genius of all time is blind to really what is going on. He has a lot of gnosis (information knowledge) but not epignosis (reality/relationship knowledge). Pride keeps Satan, unbelievers, and believers really loving God and Bible doctrine.

5. Pride also blinds the believer to Bible Doctrine (1 Tim 6:3-4; 2 Tim 3:7). One can always gauge someone's pride by his attitude to the Word of God and the Lord Jesus Christ. Those who do not put the Word of God as top priority in their lives are blinded by their arrogance. Pride destroys any ability to learn Bible Doctrine and orient to the Lord Jesus Christ. Proud people are bored with Bible doctrine, especially repetition. They are simply not hungry for God's Word. They have been blinded by kosmos diabolicus.

1 Timothy 6:3 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,

2 Timothy 3:7 always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

6. There is no reason for any believer to be proud We all have the same +R of Jesus Christ by grace through faith alone, in ourselves we all deserve is the Lake of Fire! We are here to please God, not to be pleased. We have been given the righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ and His eternal life!

7. Consider the perniciousness of pride in the lives of Satan, the fallen angels, Sampson, Solomon, David, Moses, Elijah, et al.

8. Pride blinds believers to demon influence, 1 Tim. 3:6; James 3:15.

9. Pride blinds society in regard to its decadence, 1 Tim 3:2-5; Romans 1.

10. Pride is the principal cause for the destruction of marriages and families. Excessive occupation with self instead of others in the family is a major problem. One the major manifestations of pride among believers is the excessive occupation with other's lack application of Scripture. Marriage is by far the most difficult relationship *to fulfill the divine mandated roles*. Husbands are never told to love any other person or anything the way they are supposed to love their wives—like Christ loves the church; the wife is never told to treat anyone else with as much respect as her earthly lord, her husband. Unity of becoming one flesh shows God's purpose that husband and wife be united in love and doctrine. The most blessed relationship in life is when husband and wife share fellowship with God and grow together in Bible doctrine. To have a husband or wife who truly desires to grow in Bible doctrine with you is the single greatest

earthly blessing in life. Every husband and wife should ask himself or herself if he or she is an influence of God or Satan/kosmos (cf. Eph. 6:12) on the spouse. There is no middle ground at any given time. If you have a spouse that enjoys growing with you in the Lord by putting Bible doctrine first, you have the greatest earthly blessing there is. If not, you still have opportunities to grow closer to God in special ways.

In 'Ehyeh

Pastor Don