

Doctrine of Pride (part 11)

71. Review of meaning of pride. Pride is the basic mental attitude sin. It is the quality of exaggerated self-esteem, conceit, subjective thinking, and arrogance. It is lofty self respect. It is high esteem of oneself whether real or imagined. Vanity is empty pride. Pride which has no attainments or possessions, but has excessive desire for attention, approval, and praise from others. Words used for pride include conceit, egotism, haughtiness, vanity, arrogance, vain glory, superciliousness, megalomania, and pomposity. Arrogance is maximum pride.

72. Pride was both the original sin of Satan and the motivation for his fall, Isa 14:12-14.

- a. "I will be like the Most High God." Satan was the greatest creature ever to come from the hand of God. He had the greatest beauty, personality, and intelligence. He assumed he was as great as God. All arrogance assumes divine prerogatives. When you judge someone else, you assume the mental attitude of Satan. The desire to be well-thought of by others is subjective arrogant thinking.
- b. Satan thought he could overthrow God. In his arrogance he didn't understand the *Esse* or Simplicity of God. Ezekiel 28:14-17 emphasizes Satan's pride and approbation lust. There never was equality in the angelic realm.
- c. Satan was arrogant because of his beauty. Human arrogance is offset by the ability to think and to relate yourself to life. The soul is designed by God to offset arrogance. You have the ability to think and look at yourself without a thought about how good or bad you look.
- d. Self-consciousness is not arrogance. Arrogance is subjective thinking related to self-consciousness of the soul. Satan corrupted his wisdom. We are all given a certain amount of wisdom or objectivity. It is destroyed by arrogance. Satan's subjectivity destroyed his wisdom. Arrogance destroys outer beauty. This doesn't mean ugly people aren't arrogant.

73. Pride is a human sin.

- a. Pride is the basic mental attitude sin, and as such, it attracts other mental sins. For example, the arrogant person always sees someone who has more of what makes the arrogant person arrogant, e.g., beauty, personality, or ability. This causes jealousy. These two mental sins always travel together. All arrogant people are jealous. Pressure put on arrogance causes jealousy to pop up. Note how jealousy and petty people are about Romney because he was born with wealth. Even conservatives despise him because he was born in wealth. It is one thing to be born in wealth, quite another to be successful with it.

- b. Pettiness and pride go hand in hand. Inevitably, this person will be petty in the area of his jealousy. If the arrogant person is petty, he also becomes vindictive. If vindictive, he becomes implacable. Arrogance, jealousy, pettiness, vindictiveness, and implacability go together. Arrogance never travels alone.
- c. Arrogance demands total attention from everyone in the periphery. All arrogant people are totally different under pressure. They are weak people. Other mental attitude sins come up under pressure. Pride is the only disease which makes everyone sick except the one who has it.
- d. In 1 Tim 3:6, the neophyte has blind arrogance. He is proud of his self-righteous virtuous life.
- e. 1 Tim 6:3-4 teaches that those who reject doctrine are arrogant, and intrude with false doctrine.
- f. 2 Tim 3:2 says that rejection of authority is a part of arrogance.
- g. According to 1 Jn 2:15-16, to love the world means living in Satan's cosmic system. Arrogance of life is love of the world or worldliness. If you think human good and evil, then you are worldly. You cannot have arrogance and function in fellowship.

74. Pride is related to personal reversionism, Ps 10:2-4.

- a. Spiritual bullying comes from arrogance. You assume that your norms and standards should be superimposed over others.
- b. Pride in males is more obvious than in females. Women use their emotions, nagging, and crying to gain control of others.
- c. Prov 16:18, "Pride precedes destruction, and before a fall, arrogance of spirit prevails."
- d. Arrogance will lead to a combination of punitive actions from God, along with much self-induced discipline. We make our own misery when we carry arrogance around.
- e. Unbeliever reversionism related to pride is found in Rom 1:30.
- f. Childhood arrogance comes from parents wanting to win the affection of their children rather than establishing their authority. They create monsters in their children. Many arrogant people had permissive parents. All self-centeredness is related to arrogance.
- g. James 4:4-7, "God makes war against the arrogant." Arrogance makes the believer the enemy of God. Humility is grace orientation. The arrogant person appoints himself God's enemy.

- h. 1 Pet 5:5-6. Arrogant believers seek to control others through pseudo-norms, taboos, being critical, maligning, etc.

75. Arrogance is related to national reversionism.

- a. Pride is mentioned as the characteristic of national reversionism. Lev 26:19, "I will break down your pride of power." The economy is destroyed to stop arrogance.
- b. In 2 Chron 32:26, Hezekiah humbled the pride of his right lobe so that the wrath of Jehovah did not come on the Jews.
- c. The Jews were destroyed because of national arrogance, Isa 9:9.
- d. National pride is related to the fall of Moab, Isa 16:6.
- e. Arrogance leads to a manifestation in boasting, Isa 28. Therefore, arrogance divorces the individual from reality. Discipline is the only way to bring that person or nation back to reality.
- f. Arrogance brings down the worst discipline from God and causes the greatest self-induced misery. Arrogant people can never get to reality.
- g. Isa 28:1-3 describes the national pride of the Northern Kingdom prior to the fifth cycle of discipline. People drink to maintain their disassociation from reality. Arrogance produces divorcement from reality which is strengthened by a lot of drinking. When the Assyrians came along, they weren't real to the Jews of the Northern Kingdom.
- h. In Ezek 7:10, the Jews were divorced from reality and not prepared to meet the enemy. Conceit breeds defeat. Arrogance makes people unprepared for battle.
- i. Hos 7:10-14. People always run to someone else when they are about to be destroyed. The Jews were like fickle silly women. They only went to church to get God to prosper them economically. When they revolted against God, they were destroyed.