

Doctrine of Pride (part 3)

(cont.)

28. God hates pride. Even though God loves the believer with a perfect love because he is in Christ (Rom. 8:38-39), He still hates pride in the believer and is actively working on removing it from the thought pattern. It is impossible to remove pride apart from the filling of the Holy Spirit and the daily intake of the Word of God. Pride simply cannot be removed, it must be displaced with genuine humility. Anytime a believer is involved in pride, God hates *it*:

Proverbs 6:16 These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: 17 A proud (רָמוֹת, *ramoth: lofty, high, haughty, proud, exalted*) look . . .

29. Pride is antithetical to the grace plan of God. God has a plan for your life. God is perfect, therefore, His plan is perfect. It is impossible for you with your sin nature to execute the plan of God for your life. Therefore, God has provided through His grace a way for you to execute His plan, purpose, and will during your lifetime. Whenever a Christian fails in executing the plan of God for his life, sinful pride is the primary reason and motivating cause. Pride is why so many believers do not care for Bible doctrine.

30. Pride is the antithesis of grace. Pride is a lofty self-respect totally apart from reality. It is high esteem of oneself from some imagined or real superiority. The believer who is arrogant is totally blind to the grace of God. Pride is synonymous with vanity, which is empty pride in regard to one's person, attainments, or possessions coupled with an excessive desire to be noticed, a lust for attention, lust for approval or praise from others. Pride is the pomposity of vain glory. It is supercilious and haughty contempt of others. Pride includes several different concepts and is a philosophy in and of itself.

31. Pride is the basic mental attitude sin. Sinful pride (or arrogance) precedes and supports all of the sinful mental attitudes the sin nature produces, for example: vanity (which is empty pride in regard to one's person, attainments, or possessions coupled with an excessive desire to be noticed, a lust for attention, lust for approval or praise from others), haughty contempt of others, jealousy, bitterness, vindictiveness, implacability, revenge motivation, self-pity, conceit, inordinate ambition and competition, slander, gossip, and maligning. Pride is a mental attitude sin which overflows into the motivation, decision making and activity of the individual.

32. Satan was the first creature guilty of pride. His motivation of pride is found in one line of ISA. 14:14. "I will make myself like the Most High God." The original sin of pride is amplified in the following passage.

Ezek. 28:14-17. "You were the Anointed Cherub who guards; I placed you there. You were on the holy mountain of God; you walked among the stones of fire. You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created until unrighteousness was found in you. By the abundance of your slander, they filled your inner life with violence and you sinned. Therefore, I have cast you as defiled from the mountain of God. I have excluded you, O Guardian Cherub, out from the stones of fire. Your right lobe was lifted up because of your beauty. You corrupted your wisdom because of your glamor. I have cast you to the earth. I have placed you before kings that they may see you."

33. Scriptures Related to the Sin of Pride:

Prov 11:2, "When pride comes, then come dishonor."

Prov 16:18, "Pride precedes destruction, and before a fall there is a lifestyle of pride."

Prov 23:29, "A person's pride will bring him low, but a lifestyle of humility will attain honor."

Rom 12:3, "For I say through the grace which has been given to me to everyone who is among you, stop thinking of self in terms of pride beyond what you ought to think, but think in terms of sanity for the purpose of being rational without illusion as God has assigned to each one of us a standard of thinking from doctrine."

Jam 3:14-16, "But if you have bitter jealousy and inordinate ambition in your right lobe, stop being arrogant, and stop lying against the truth [Bible doctrine]. This pseudo wisdom is not that which comes from above, but is earthly, natural, and demonic. For where jealousy and inordinate ambition exist there is disorder and every evil deed."

Prov 13:10, "Through pride comes strife, but wisdom is with those who receive instruction."

1 Pet 5:5, "Likewise you younger men be subject to the elder [pastor], and all of you clothe yourselves with humility toward one another. 'For God makes war against the arrogant, but He gives grace to the humble.' Therefore, humble yourselves under the powerful hand of God, that He may promote you at the proper time."

34. Promotion in the plan of God excludes pride. If God does not promote you, you are not promoted. God promotes men and women who have spiritual capacity via the ministry of the Holy Spirit and right thinking via the Word of God. God promotes humble or grace oriented people. Promotion is a matter of doctrinal inculcation and grace-orientation. Promotion is a matter of glorifying God through fellowship and growth in Bible doctrine. Self-promotion is the philosophy of Satan.

35. The Arrogance of Nations Brings Them Under Divine Discipline. Due to lack of Bible doctrine and rejection of natural law, Americans are increasingly becoming arrogant as evidenced by the entitlement attitude. The more the government takes care of people the more infantile Americans will become, and the more they will arrogantly demand.

Lev. 26:19, "And I will break down the pride of your power. And I will make your sky like iron, and your land like bronze."

Isa. 9:8-9, "The Lord sends a message against Jacob and it falls on Israel. And all the people know it, that is, Ephraim and the inhabitants of Samaria, who spoke with pride and pride of heart. The bricks have fallen down, but we will rebuild with smooth stones."

Ezek. 7:10, "Behold, the day is coming. Your doom has gone forth. The rod of discipline has budded because pride has blossomed."

36. Pride is Always Related to the Rejection of the Word of God. Pride distracts the believer from doctrine. Pride divorces the believer from reality, both personal and historical. Pride is the corruptor of the soul and the sign that the sin nature is dominating the soul. Pride destroys capacity for life, love, and happiness. Pride has an amazing power to blind the believer to the Word of God and true fellowship with Him.

1 Tim 6:3-4, "If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not concur with sound doctrine, those doctrines of our Lord Jesus Christ, even doctrines pertaining to godliness [spirituality], he has become arrogant, understanding nothing. Furthermore, he has morbid obsessions about controversies and verbal conflicts from which originate jealousy, discord, evil speculation."

37. The Effects of Pride. The arrogant person rejects authority. Pride motivates emotional sins, such as: fear, worry, anxiety, hatred, anger, violence, murder, guilt, and guilt complex, self-pity. Pride reproduces itself in jealousy, bitterness, vindictiveness, implacability, revenge motivation, inordinate ambition and competition, gossip, slander, maligning, and judging. Pride transformed into self-righteousness produces legalism. In pride a person demands attention and lives with approbation lusts.

38. The Solution to Pride. The solution to pride is life in truth—life under the ministry of the Holy Spirit that continues to grow in God’s Word. It is the ministry of the Holy Spirit that brings to our souls humility. It is the Word of God that brings our attention to our pride and orients us to the grace of God. We all start out as very prideful people. Only by living in truth will we make the adjustments and displace the pride with humility. Daily attention to the philosophy and techniques of the Christian Way of Life will give you a grace mental attitude that becomes more and more free of pride as you grow in Christ and in the knowledge of His Word.

Proverbs 8:13 "The fear/respect of the LORD is to hate evil; Pride and arrogance and the evil way, And the perverted mouth, I hate.

In, by, and through ‘Ehyeh

Pastor Don