

DOCTRINE OF PRIDE (part 5)

(Cont.)

45. The believer has absolutely no basis for being prideful. He has nothing in and of himself to boast about. 'Ehyeh not only gives moment by moment existence to all things, He provided a salvation totally by the grace of God. You and I are nothing apart from God, in existence or in salvation.

Romans 3:27 Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith.

Romans 11:17 But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive, were grafted in among them and became partaker with them of the rich root of the olive tree, 18 do not be arrogant toward the branches; but if you are arrogant, remember that it is not you who supports the root, but the root supports you. 19 You will say then, "Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in." 20 Quite right, they were broken off for their unbelief, but you stand by your faith. Do not be conceited, but fear;

1 Corinthians 1:26 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 sanctification, and redemption, 31 that, just as it is written, "Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, that no one should boast.

46. Characteristics of proud/arrogant people.

- a. Self-promoting instead of waiting on God, Gal. 6:13; Luke 14:11.
- b. Reject authority (Num 16:3 compare w/ Ex 19:6; 1 Cor 4:18-21). No one with pride should ever be put in a place of authority.
- c. Unteachable (Ex 8:15; Prov 12:15; 13:10; Jer 7:24; 9:14; 11:8-10; 16:12).
- d. Self-deceived (Prov 16:2; 26:12; 26:16 Jer 49:4; 49:16). Pride always leads to great deception.
- e. Lifestyle of sins of the tongue—bragging and cutting others down constantly (Psalm 10:3; 12:1-4; 31:18; 52:1-5; 59:12; 94:1-4).

47. Mandates for Biblical humility: Rom 12:16; Eph 4:2; Phil 2:1- 5; Col 3:12-13. Genuine humility, submission to the Word of God through the ministry of the Holy Spirit, is the only divine asset strong enough to tear off the blinders of pride.

48. God will always judge arrogance and pride (Job 35:12; Ps 31:23; Isa 13:11). Our nation is on a collision course. We might have one or two generations left.

49. Arrogance/pride destroys families.

- a. God has provided mandates for each person in a family. In arrogance members of the family reject those mandates and devise their own parameters according to their arrogance. Pride is the great destroyer of “submissive” consideration of each other.
- b. To mentally submit means to listen, understand, and submit to their needs in line with the Word of God. In pride one only thinks of self.
- c. Submission brings peace and blessedness to the family whereas arrogance destroys the family. Peace and blessedness in a family requires Bible doctrine (knowledge) and genuine humility (attitude). Submission to God is absolutely essential before a man can submit to the Lord in sacrificially loving his wife, or a wife can submit to the Lord in obeying her husband, or a child can submit to the Lord in honoring his parents, or parents can submit to the Lord in raising up children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Families are being destroyed in our country at an alarming rate due to pride which is but the result of negative volition to Bible doctrine. Most of what follows is rejected in modern America.

Ephesians 5:21 and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ. 22 Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. 24 But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything. 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her; 26 that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she should be holy and blameless. 28 So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; 29 for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church, 30 because we are members of His body. 31 For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and the two shall become one flesh. 32 This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church. 33 Nevertheless let each individual among you also love his own wife even as himself; and let the wife see to it that she respect her husband. 6:1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise), 3 that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the

earth. 4 And, fathers, do not provoke your children to anger; but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

- d. In pride communication is stifled. Good communication requires genuine humility: Good communication is the art of mutually sharing with or without words our deepest feelings, interests, desires, and needs without the fear of being ignored, ridiculed coerced or hurt and in an attitude of respect, calmness, acceptance, understanding, and helpfulness.
- e. Pride destroys quality of communication. In humility one gains capacity to actually empathize with loved ones. Pride makes us very self-centered, stubborn, and critical of others. In pride one never admits when he or she is wrong—too proud!
- f. Only biblical humility can break the curse of pride. It all starts with putting oneself under the Word of God. Negative volition in any member of the family causes problems.
- g. Pride in parents provides children with horrible examples. We have a whole generation of kids growing up with entitlement attitudes due in no small part to parents. The pride and self-centeredness of parents are simply transferred to the children in spades.

50. Victory over pride.

- a. Recognize the problem and confess it quickly, 1 Jn. 1:9. Pride is one of the worst and least recognized sins.
- b. Live in fellowship with God so you will be filled with the Holy Spirit. The more you live under the salubrious ministry of the Holy Spirit, the more genuine humility is cultivation, Gal. 5:16, 22-23.
- c. Put yourself under the authority of the Word of God, James 1:21.
- d. Live your life as unto the Lord and not to others, Rom. 14:8-13. Don't let others distract you. Be what God wants you to be and not what people want you to be. Trust God! This means trusting in His plans for your life. Develop spiritual self-esteem before the Lord.
- e. Make the issue of your life gaining the surpassing knowledge of Christ and pleasing Him, Jer 9:23-24; Phil 3:8. You would be surprised how perspective changes.
- f. Stay oriented to the grace of God (Rom 4:4; Eph 2:8-9). The last thing you need to do is to move into pride and self-pity.
- g. Orient to all legitimate authority (1 Pet. 5:6).

51. The bottom line is that pride is the only thing that stands between us and the wonderful supergrace life. Arrogance destroys ability to see the greatness of the Lord Jesus Christ and the marvelous plan of God. Every believer has a choice to live in a state of warfare with God or in a state of blessedness which continually increases into more and more grace.

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

In, by, and through 'Ehyeh

Pastor Don