

Doctrine of Pride (part 7)

(cont.)

56. To overcome pride, one must past the tests of life (1 Cor. 10:1-13). Every test we face has something to do with some aspect of pride in our lives. We fail the test when we do not believe that God is faithful and will provide.

1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, that you may be able to endure it.

57. To overcome pride, one must orient to legitimate authority (Col. 3:18-24; 1 Pet. 2:18; 5:5).

a. At church:

1 Peter 5:5 You younger men, likewise, be subject to your elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

b. At work—it does not matter if the authority is reasonable:

1 Peter 2:18 Servants, be submissive to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and gentle, **but also to those who are unreasonable.**

c. In marriage—the wife who refuses to submit to her husband is an arrogant woman. Furthermore, regardless of how she looks outwardly, she is destroying her beauty, femininity, and graciousness. It is totally unbecoming for any Christian wife to act horsey towards her husband, her early lord, especially in public.

Ephesians 5:24 But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.

d. In the family. It is imperative that children learn genuine humility which is reflected in respect for parents.

Ephesians 6:1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

e. In the angelic conflict, Satan loves to incite pride and arrogance to break up a blessed relationship among family members.

58. To overcome pride the believer must cast his worries on the Lord. In humility the believer learns to live in dependence upon Him instead of handing the problem yourself in sin. Pride always thinks it knows what is best independent of the Word of God. As long as the believer worries he doubts God's faithfulness and treats Him as untrustworthy.

1 Peter 5:6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, 7 casting all your anxiety upon Him, because He cares for you.

59. To overcome pride, the believer must learn to live his own life before the Lord. This means to cease and desist from trying to run others' lives or comparing self with others (John 21:20-23; Rom. 14:8-13). In pride the believer is always comparing himself to others. This is not only prideful, it causes major distractions from the unique life that God has for him. It also destroys self-esteem or, at least, ties it to another's situation. This issue is to stay oriented to God's unique plan for you—period!

John 21:20 Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; the one who also had leaned back on His breast at the supper, and said, "Lord, who is the one who betrays You?" 21 Peter therefore seeing him said to Jesus, "Lord, and what about this man?" 22 Jesus said to him, "If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow Me!" 23 This saying therefore went out among the brethren that that disciple would not die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but only, "If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you?"

Romans 14:8 for if we live, we live for the Lord, or if we die, we die for the Lord; therefore whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died and lived again, that He might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. 10 But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you again, why do you regard your brother with contempt? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God. 11 For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me, And every tongue shall give praise to God." 12 So then each one of us shall give account of himself to God. 13 Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather determine this-- not to put an obstacle or a stumbling block in a brother's way.

60. To overcome pride, the believer must focus on gaining the surpassing knowledge of Christ (Jer 9:23-24; Lk 10:38-42; Phil 3:8). When the believer gains the surpassing knowledge of Christ, he is no longer concerned about the details of life and comparison with others.

- a. Surpassing knowledge is far greater than power or riches.

Jeremiah 9:23 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.

b. Surpassing knowledge is far greater than all temporal things:

Philippians 3:8 More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish in order that I may gain Christ,

61. Overcoming pride results in gaining the power of Christ (2 Cor 12:8-10). What God does not remove through prayer, God intends to be a vehicle to bring unimaginable power and blessing in the life of the believer.

2 Corinthians 12:8 Concerning this I entreated the Lord three times that it might depart from me. 9 And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness [humility]." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may dwell in me. 10 Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

- ✓ Power of Christ is more important than elimination of pain.
- ✓ Paul gained tranquility of soul in suffering.
- ✓ Paul gained great stability of mind in suffering—instead of being double-minded.
- ✓ Paul gained great assurance in suffering.
- ✓ Paul gained greater grace orientation in suffering.
- ✓ Paul gained mastery of the details of life in suffering.
- ✓ Paul gain person sense of destiny in suffering.
- ✓ Paul gained great courage in facing uncertainties in suffering.
- ✓ Paul gained great self-esteem it the Lord in suffering.
- ✓ Paul gained doctrinal orientation in suffering.

62. Overcoming pride results in overcoming kosmos diabolicus and moving into greater/super-grace (Js 4:6). Logistical grace is for every believer. But supergrace includes the promised life which is accompanied by knowing the hope of his calling, the riches of his glory, and the power of Christ's resurrection. In supergrace, God blesses beyond what you could ever ask or think. Pride is very pernicious in that it because it breaks down all divine functions, e.g., the Holy Spirit, the Word, and love for the Lord Jesus Christ!!

James 4:4 You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. 5 Or do you think that the Scripture speaks to no purpose: "He jealously desires the Spirit which He has made to dwell in us"? 6 But He gives a greater grace. Therefore it says, "God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

Galatians 6:14 But may it never be that I should boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

Philippians 3:3 for we are the true circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh [absence of pride].

In, by, with, and through 'Ehyeh (אֶהְיֶה)

Pastor Don