

# WHEN PRIDE DISGUISES AS FAITH—Part 2

We said to you that sometimes pride disguises itself as faith. In other words, there are times we our acts of faith are nothing more than PRIDE IN DISGUISE!

Furthermore, we said to you that pride comes in many forms. For example, pride can sometimes come in the form of *arrogance*.

## ARROGANCE

When I say **arrogance** I'm talking about *having an exaggerated view of oneself or an exaggerated view of our abilities*.

### **Romans 12:3**

***<sup>3</sup> For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.***

Notice, we ought not to have an exaggerated opinion of ourselves or our abilities. Instead, we're to think of ourselves according to what we've received from God.

Sometimes we will try to use faith (or our spiritual gifts) to improve how we see or think of ourselves. But, when we oversell ourselves, we're not in faith. We're in pride! In fact, any faith we think we have is really pride in disguise!

### **Jude 16**

***<sup>16</sup> These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage.***

Notice, false prophets will often use "great swelling words" because they have men's persons in admiration. In other words, they will *exaggerate* or *overstate* what God has said in order to impress or flatter men. Therefore, it's possible to be a victim of someone using their faith or spiritual gifts in a form of pride!

Pride can also come in the form of *overconfidence*.

## OVERCONFIDENCE

Sometimes when we think we're in faith we're actually in pride (overconfidence). So, while we think our "confidence" is faith, oftentimes is really *pride in disguise*!

### **Luke 22:31–34**

***31 And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: 32 But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren. 33 And he said unto him, Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death. 34 And he said, I tell thee, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, before that thou shalt thrice deny that thou knowest me.***

Peter probably thought he was ‘in faith’ when he told the Lord he would follow Him to the end. However, his faith was really pride (overconfidence). Understand, faith is not just about having confidence. Faith is about having confidence in God (in what He has said)!

Again, this is VERY different from the way the world views faith. The world sees faith as having confidence in what we say or think. Thus, they believe that we can “manifest” whatever we want. However, this is pride, not faith.

### **Jeremiah 23:16–17, 22**

***16 Thus saith the Lord of hosts, Hearken not unto the words of the prophets that prophesy unto you: they make you vain: they speak a vision of their own heart, and not out of the mouth of the Lord. 17 They say still unto them that despise me, The Lord hath said, Ye shall have peace; and they say unto every one that walketh after the imagination of his own heart, No evil shall come upon you. 22 But if they had stood in my counsel, and had caused my people to hear my words, then they should have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings.***

God is saying that if they were TRUE prophets, they would turn men from their evil doings (command them to repent). Instead, these false prophets flatter men by telling them they will “have peace” (be blessed). Why are they saying this? because they are speaking what’s coming from the their *own* heart. Moreover, anyone speaking from their own heart is in pride, not faith!

In fact, they are practicing witchcraft!

### **1 Samuel 15:23**

***23 For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft,***

What is rebellion? Rebellion is the refusal to accept someone’s authority or submit to what they say.

This is basically what we’re doing when we try to manifest things from our own heart. We’re rebelling against God. We’re refusing to accept the outcome He has purposed and we’re trying to create a different outcome. This is no different from someone who goes to a fortune-teller!

Finally, sometimes pride can come in the form of impatience.

## **IMPATIENCE**

### ***Habakkuk 2:2–4***

***2 And the Lord answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. 3 For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry. 4 Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.***

Therefore, the soul that is “lifted up in pride” is a person who’s unwilling to wait patiently for the vision (or **PROMISE**) to come to pass.

### ***Hebrews 10:36–38***

***36 For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. 37 For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. 38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.***

Again, to “live by faith” means to patiently wait on the promise. If we’re growing impatient or trying to do things to reduce the waiting period (like giving large sums of money), then our ‘act of faith’ is not faith. It’s pride in disguise!

This patience also applies to **PROBLEMS**. We’re walking in pride when we’re unwilling to be patient in our trials.

### ***James 1:2–3***

***2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; 3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.***

Sometimes we will try to do things we THINK is faith in order to remove the waiting period in our trials. If you’re trying to use your faith because you want to speed up your deliverance (like fasting for long periods of time), then your faith is really pride in disguise.

Finally, patience also applies to **PEOPLE**. We’re walking in pride when we refuse to be patient with people.

### ***Galatians 6:1–3***

***1 Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. 2 Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. 3 For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself.***

Sometimes we try to use our faith in order to keep from “restoring” or “bearing” (being patient) with others. A lot of the ‘religious protesting’ we see today is often nothing more than impatience.

**Luke 9:52–55**

***52 And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him. 53 And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem. 54 And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did? 55 But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of.***

If the disciples would have called down fire upon the Samaritans, they would not have been operating in faith. They would have been operating in pride disguised as faith!

The same is true concerning us. Oftentimes our faith has an agenda. Our text threads and calls for prayer, is oftentimes nothing more than an example of how impatient we are with what’s going on or with people.