

NEW YEAR,

FRESH START...

MORE JESUS!

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THE KILLER OF POSSIBILITIES AND CHANGE:

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THE KILLER OF POSSIBILITIES AND CHANGE: PRIDE

"Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."

Proverbs 16:18

The DESCRIPTION of Pride

A. What is pride?

- 1) Pride is seen in having an arrogance (Prov. 21:4)
- 2) Pride is taking God's glory for yourself
- 3) Pride occurs when we forget where our blessings come from

B. Where does pride come from?

The World (1 John 2:16)

Satan (Isaiah 14:12-15)

C. Why does pride tempt us?

- 1) Satan's goal: prevent/remove God from the throne of our lives
- 2) If we are prideful, we fulfill Satan's goal

The DESTRUCTION of Pride

A. Pride brings disgrace (Prov. 11:2)

- B. Pride causes division (Prov. 13:10)
- C. Pride causes you to forget God (Deut. 8:14)
- D. Pride distances you from God (Ps. 138:6)
- E. Pride revisits you with damage (Ps. 31:23)
- F. Pride destroys your life (2 Chr. 26:16)

So, how do I recognize pride in my own life? Here are some indications pride is creeping up in my life:

- **Spotty prayer life**--suggests I am not actively relying on God, nor aware of my need for Him.
- **Weariness**-- is often the result of trying to do more than God intends, which means I am not letting Him order my day.
- **Anger**--can mean I am not trusting God's sovereign plan and timing, and I'm trying to take control from Him.
- **A critical spirit**-- the sorry act of bringing others down in order to lift up myself, often points to an inflated sense of self.
- **A defensive reaction to criticism** -- despondency after failure, the inability to laugh at my mistakes, all suggest that I am taking myself too seriously and thinking of myself too highly.
- **Taking responsibility for success** -- accomplishment or financial prosperity may mean I have lost sight of God's gracious and undeserved provision.
- **Impatience about having to listen, wait, serve** – having to be anonymous, or be led by someone else all hint at an overdeveloped sense of importance.
- **Unwillingness to associate or get to know a certain person or people** who do not live up to your standards. Romans 12:16 says, "Don't be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position."

So how do we deal with pride in our lives?

- 1). Recognize it—this is the first step!
- 2). Repent of it!
- 3). Ready yourself to surrender to God's will!