

Am I the Problem?

1. The Problem of Pride

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Revelation 3:17 (NKJV)
“Because you say, ‘I am rich, have
become wealthy, and have need of nothing’—and do not know
that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked.”

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Revelation 12:10b

For the accuser of our brothers and sisters has been thrown down to earth the one who accuses them before our God day and night.

1 Peter 5:8

(NKJV) Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

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John 8:33

But we are descendants of Abraham, they said. We have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean, You will be set free?

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2. The Poison of Pride

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Genesis 39:6–20 (NIV)

“Now Joseph was well-built and handsome, and after a while his master’s wife took notice of Joseph and said, ‘Come to bed with me!’ But he refused . . . One day he went into the house to attend to his duties, and none of the household servants was inside. She caught him by his cloak and said, ‘Come to bed with me!’ But he left his cloak in her hand and ran out of the house.

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Genesis 39:6–20 (NIV)

When she saw that he had left his cloak in her hand and had run out of the house, she called her household servants. ‘Look,’ she said to them, ‘this Hebrew has been brought to us to make sport of us! He came in here to sleep with me, but I screamed. When he heard me scream for help, he left his cloak beside me and ran out of the house.’ . . . When his master heard the story his wife told him, saying, ‘This is how your slave treated me,’ he burned with anger. Joseph’s master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king’s prisoners were confined.”

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Philippians 2:6-8 (NIV)

Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

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Proverbs 21:4 (ESV)

**Haughty eyes and a proud heart, the
lamp of the wicked, are sin.**

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3. The First Will Be Last

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Proverbs 18:12

Haughtiness goes before destruction; humility precedes honor.

Proverbs 11:2

Pride leads to disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.

Proverbs 15:33

Fear of the LORD teaches wisdom; humility precedes honor.

Proverbs 16:18

Pride goes before destruction, and haughtiness before a fall.

Proverbs 29:23

Pride ends in humiliation, while humility brings honor.

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4. What Does This World Have to Offer?

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1 John 2:15-16 (NLT)

Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world.

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Matthew 4:8-9

Next the devil took him to the peak of a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. 9 “I will give it all to you,” he said, “if you will kneel down and worship me.

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Philippians 3:19 NIV

**Their destiny is destruction, their god is
their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set
on earthly things.**

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5. Who Is the Greatest in the Kingdom?

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Matthew 18:4 (NKJV)

**Therefore whoever humbles himself as
this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.**

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6. Humble Pie

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Matthew 23:13 (NKJV)

**But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees,
hypocrites! For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men;
for you neither go in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are
entering to go in.**

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Matthew 6:5 (NLT)

When you pray, don't be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I tell you the truth, that is all the reward they will ever get.

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Isaiah 56:7

even those I will bring to My holy mountain and give them joy in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and gifts will be received on My altar. For My house will be called a house of prayer for all people.

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7. See Him as Something

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Galatians 6:3 (NKJV)
**For if anyone thinks himself to be
something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself.**

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Psalm 138:6

**Though the LORD is great, he cares for the humble,
but he keeps his distance from the proud.**

Proverbs 3:34

**He mocks proud mockers but shows favor to the
humble and oppressed.**

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**James 4:6 And he gives grace generously. As the Scriptures say,
God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.**

**1 Peter 5:5 In the same way, you who are younger must accept
the authority of the elders. And all of you, dress yourselves in
humility as you relate to one another, for God opposes the proud
but gives grace to the humble.**

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John 15:5

Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.

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