

SIGNS OF A PRIDE PROBLEM **Esther 5:9-14**

1. A proud man finds happiness in personal success

If I have found favor in the sight of the king, and if it please the king to grant my wish and fulfill my request, let the king and Haman come to the feast that I will prepare for them, and tomorrow I will do as the king has said." And Haman went out that day joyful and glad of heart. (8-9)

2. A proud man has limited perspective

But when Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate, that he neither rose nor trembled before him, he was filled with wrath against Mordecai. (9)

3. A proud man finds security in status

Nevertheless, Haman restrained himself and went home, and he sent and brought his friends and his wife Zeresh. And Haman recounted to them the splendor of his riches, the number of his sons, all the promotions with which the king had honored him, and how he had advanced him above the officials and the servants of the king. (10-11)

4. A proud man is overconfident

Then Haman said, "Even Queen Esther let no one but me come with the king to the feast she prepared. And tomorrow also I am invited by her together with the king. (12)

5. A proud man is driven by negative emotions

Yet all this is worth nothing to me, so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate." (13)

6. A proud man surrounds himself with poor counselors

Then his wife Zeresh and all his friends said to him, "Let a gallows fifty cubits high be made, and in the morning tell the king to have Mordecai hanged upon it. Then go joyfully with the king to the feast." This idea pleased Haman, and he had the gallows made. (14)