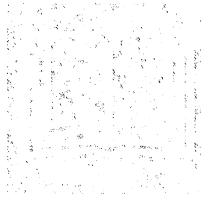


Pride - The Greatest Hindrance



Isaiah 14:12-14

¹² How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

¹³ For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:

¹⁴ I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

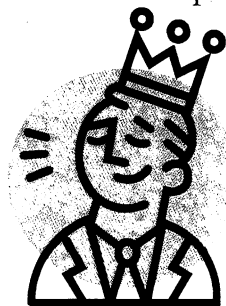
1. Who is this passage referring to? _____
2. What caused him to fall from heaven? _____
3. He said in his heart (mind)!!

EVERY ATTACK OF THE ENEMY IS FOUGHT IN THE MIND

- A. He said: "I WILL BE LIKE THE MOST HIGH"
- B. The Hebrew word for "most high" is "El'Elyon" which means "Sovereign one that reigns sovereignly in the heavens".
- C. Satan says, "I want to have the **authority** of God without the **character** of God".

SATAN PROMOTES

"Creature centered philosophy"



GOD PROMOTES

"God and others centered philosophy"



WHO GETS CONTROL OF YOUR LIFE?

PRIDE SAYS:

I reserve the right to make the final decision in my life!

or

I deserve better than this!

PROVERBS ON PRIDE:

Proverbs 8:13

¹³ The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.

1. How does God feel about pride? _____

Proverbs 11:2

² When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom.

1. What is the result of pride? _____
2. What is the result of humility? _____
3. What is wisdom? _____



Proverbs 13:10

¹⁰ Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom.

1. What is the source of all contention (strife or arguments)? _____
2. How do we get wisdom? _____



Proverbs 15:25

²⁵ The LORD will destroy the house of the proud: but he will establish the border of the widow.

1. What will happen to our homes if we walk in pride? _____



Proverbs 16:5

⁵ Everyone that is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD: though hand join in hand, he shall not be unpunished.

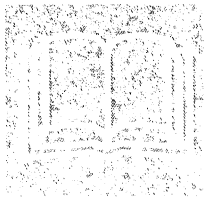
1. How does God view the proud? _____



Proverbs 16:18

¹⁸ Pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

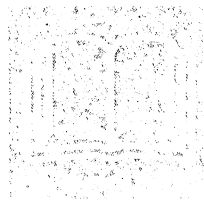
1. What is the result of walking in pride? _____



Proverbs 28:25

²⁵ He that is of a proud heart stirreth up strife: but he that putteth his trust in the LORD shall be made fat.

1. What follows those who have proud hearts? _____

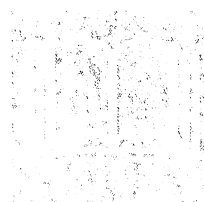


Proverbs 29:23

²³ A man's pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit.

1. What does pride do to a man? _____
2. What happens to a humble man? _____

Humility - The Greatest Need



Isaiah 57:15

¹⁵ For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

1. Who does God dwell with? _____
2. Who does God seek to revive? _____

The Heart God Revives

“The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a **broken**
and a contrite **heart**, O God, thou wilt not despise.” Psalm 51:17

Proud People...

1. focus on the failures of others.
2. are self-righteous; have a critical, fault-finding spirit; look at everyone else's faults with a microscope, but their own with a telescope; look down on others.
3. have an independent, self-sufficient spirit.
4. have to prove that they are right.
5. claim rights; have a demanding spirit.
6. are self-protective of their time, their rights, and their reputation.
7. desire to be served.
8. desire to be a success.
9. desire self-advancement.
10. have a drive to be recognized, to be appreciated; are wounded when others are promoted and they are overlooked.
11. have a subconscious feeling, “This ministry is privileged to have me and my gifts”; think of what they can do for God.

Broken People...

1. are overwhelmed with a sense of their own spiritual need.
2. are compassionate; can forgive much because they know how much they have been forgiven; esteem all others better than themselves.
3. have a dependent spirit; recognize their need for others.
4. are willing to yield the right to be right.
5. yield their rights; have a meek spirit.
6. are self-denying.
7. are motivated to serve others.
8. are motivated to be faithful and to make others a success.
9. desire to promote others.
10. have a sense of their own unworthiness; are thrilled that God would use them at all in any ministry; are eager for others to get the credit and rejoice when others are lifted up.
11. have a heart attitude that says, “I don't deserve to have any part in this ministry”: know that they have nothing to offer God except the life of Jesus flowing through their broken lives.

Proud People...

12. feel confident in how much they know.
13. are self-conscious.
14. keep others at arms' length.
15. are quick to blame others.
16. are unapproachable.
17. are defensive when criticized.
18. are concerned with being respectable, with what others think; work to protect their own image and reputation.
19. find it difficult to share their spiritual needs with others.
20. want to be sure that no one finds out when they have sinned; instinct is to cover up.
21. have a hard time saying, "I was wrong; will you please forgive me."
22. tend to deal in generalities when confessing sin.
23. are concerned about the consequences of their sin.
24. are remorseful over their sin, sorry that they got found out or caught.

Broken People...

12. are humbled by how very much they have to learn.
13. are not concerned with self at all.
14. are willing to risk getting close to others and to take risks of loving intimately.
15. accept personal responsibility and can see where they were wrong in the situation.
16. are easy to be entreated.
17. receive criticism with a humble, open spirit.
18. are concerned with being real; what they care about and what matters to them is not what others think but what God knows; are willing to die to their own reputation.
19. are willing to be open and transparent with others as God directs.
20. once broken, don't care who knows or who finds out; are willing to be exposed because they have nothing to lose.
21. are quick to admit failure and to seek forgiveness when necessary.
22. under the conviction of God's Spirit, are able to acknowledge specifics when confessing their *sin*.
23. are grieved over the cause, the root of their sin.
24. are truly, genuinely repentant over their sin; which is evidenced in the fact that they forsake that sin.

Proud People...

- 25. wait for others to come and ask forgiveness when there is a misunderstanding or conflict in relationships.
- 26. compare themselves with others and feel worthy of honor.
- 27. are blind to their true heart condition.
- 28. don't think they have anything to repent of.
- 29. don't think they need revival, but are sure that everyone else does.

Broken People...

- 25. take the initiative to be reconciled when there is a misunderstanding or a conflict in relationships; they race to the cross; they see if they can get there first, no matter how wrong the other may have been.
- 26. compare themselves to the holiness of God and feel desperate need for His mercy.
- 27. walk in the light.
- 28. realize they have need of a continual heart attitude of repentance.
- 29. continually sense their need for a fresh encounter with God and for a fresh filling of His Holy Spirit.

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Sample Prayer for Pride

Dear heavenly Father, You have said that pride goes before destruction and an arrogant spirit before stumbling (Prov. 16:18). I confess that I have not denied my self, picked up my cross daily, and followed You (Matt. 16:24). In so doing I have given ground to the enemy in my life. I have believed that I could be successful and live victoriously by my own strength and resources. I now confess that I have sinned against You by placing my will before You by centering my life around self instead of You. I now renounce the self life and by so doing cancel all ground that has been gained in my members by the enemies of the Lord Jesus Christ. I pray that You will guide me so that I will do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind I will regard others as more important than myself (Phil. 2:3). Enable me through Love to serve others and in honor prefer others (Rom. 12:10). I ask this in the name of Christ Jesus my Lord. Amen.

