



Title: The Pitfalls of Pride

Series: Esther

Scripture: Esther 1:1-22

2025 Theme Scripture: Romans 1:16-17 (ESV) *For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."*

February Scripture Memory: Esther 4:14 (ESV) *For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?*

3 Evidences of Pride in People

1. Boastfulness. (vs. 1-9)
 - Power
 - Authority/Family
 - Influence & Perks
2. Intoxication. (vs. 7-12)
 - two powerfully negative forces: Alcohol and Anger.
3. Vindictiveness. (vs. 13-22)

What would God have us do?

1. Do not be intoxicated by a leader's pride, but be intoxicated by the love of Christ. (Eph. 5:18-21)
2. Do not fear the pride of a leader, simply fear God. (Psalm 37:1-7)
3. Do not mimic the anger of the prideful leader, pray for and love your enemies. (Matt. 5:44, 21-26; 1 Tim. 2:8; Prov. 14:17)