

PRIDE

Int.

1. Aim: To show that pride is condemned by God and how we are to destroy it in our lives.
2. Every person in this building will lose their soul in hell.....if we allow our self to be filled with pride.
 - a. "Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall." Prov. 16:18 NKJV
 - b. Prov. 29:23 "A man's pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit."
 - c. A life that is wrapped up in itself makes a very small package.
 - d. Prov. 6:16-17 Things that God hates "A proud look"
3. Pride is the sin of all sins, it stands above all other sins.
 - a. It is the most deadly form that sin can take
 - b. Pride has been called the president of HELL. - 1 Tim. 3:6 "Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil."
 - c. Pride is a spiritual cancer that destroys lives.
4. Definition: "Pride - pride, haughtiness, arrogance, the characteristic of one who, with a swollen estimate of his own powers or merits, looks down on others and even treats them with insolence and contempt: (Thayer)"
5. Notice these things about pride.

Discussion

I. CHARACTERISTICS OF THOSE WHO HAVE PRIDE

A. **P** - PUFFED UP

1. 1 Cor. 5:2 "and ye are puffed up..." = to inflate
 - a. They were not sorry for their sins
 - b. But were proud and puffed up
2. Col. 2:18 "Vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind..."
 - a. Some false teachers had claimed revelations
 - b. Paul denies it and says they are puffed up by their own fleshly mind
3. Puffed Up = to inflate(self-inflated) to cause to swell, to bear oneself loftily, comes from a word referring to a pair of bellows that was used to inflate or blow air
4. I Cor. 13:4 "Love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up."
 - a. Loves does not parade its superiority, either real or imagined
 - b. Loves does not strut in borrowed plumes
 - c. He does not feel proud nor does he express it.
5. Pride dethrones God and takes credit for what God has done.

B. **R** RIDICULE

1. People filled with pride will ridicule or mock other people
2. Christ was mocked and ridiculed
 - a. Matt. 27:29,31,41
 - b. Luke 22:63 "And the men that held Jesus mocked him, and smote him."
 - c. Luke 23:11,36

- d. Mock = low estimation of another, insulting speech, finding fault, jeer, deride
- 3. Lk. 14:28-29
 - a. Start to build - but not able to finish
 - b. Ridiculed and mocked for not planning
- 4. We must never ridicule and mock others even if they make a mistake
 - a. Gal. 6:1 -- restore in a spirit of meekness
 - b. Mt. 7:12 "Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets."

C. I IMPRESS

- 1. People filled with pride try to create a big impression on everyone
 - a. He is oversold on himself and his importance
 - b. A person filled with pride feels that the world revolves around him
- 2. "God resists the proud..." Jas. 4:6
 - a. God sets himself in battle array against those who are so filled with pride
 - b. Mt. 23:12 Those who exalt themselves will be abased "And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."
- 3. If We will humble ourselves then God will see to it that we are exalted!
 - a. I Pet.-5:6 "Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:"
 - b. God will do the exalting and at the right time
 - c. We need not try to impress others!
- 4. Even the wisest of men are wrong sometimes. One who is truly wise will admit his faults, and not try to justify them (Rom. 12:16).

D. **D** DESPISE

1. Proud people do not like certain other people
 - a. Those who are poor are despised
 - b. People who are different are despised-color, culture, looks
2. We must not be a respecter of persons
 - a. Acts 10:34-35 "Then Peter opened his mouth and said: "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. 35 "But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him."
 - b. Let us recognize that God does not consider any one person more valuable than another (Acts 10:34; Rom. 2:11), so neither should we think ourselves worth more than someone else.
 - c. Gal. 2:6 ESV "And from those v who seemed to be influential (what they were makes no difference to me; w God shows no partiality)—those, I say, who seemed influential x added nothing to me."
 - d. God does not show favoritism - He is not partial to the rich or the poor
 - e. God is a respecter of Character-not persons
3. Jas. 2:6-9
 - a. James condemned these people for despising the poor and showing favoritism to the rich
 - b. Pro. 14:21 "He that despiseth his neighbor sinneth: but he that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he."
 - c. If we are showing respect of persons then that is SIN
 - d. The royal law says to love neighbor as thyself

E. E ENJOY

1. People with pride enjoy looking down on others
 - a. They feel they are above other in every way
 - b. It is necessary for them to look down on those who are not as good as they
2. These verses condemn this error of being haughty and proud
 - a. "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall." Pr.16:18
 - b. I sa. 2:11 "The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day."
 - c. I sa. 13:11 NKJV "'I will punish the world for its evil, And the wicked for their iniquity; I will halt the arrogance of the proud, And will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible."
3. Paul teaches us to have an opposite attitude
 - a. Phil. 2:3-4 Lowliness of mind = humility "Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. 4 Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others."
 - b. If we think we are better than others, we will treat ourselves better than others, and place our own interests above anything else. This is the opposite of what God expects (Phi. 2:3).
 - c. Look for the good qualities in others
4. David said; "Lord, my heart is not haughty, nor mine eyes lofty:" Ps. 131:1

II. DANGER IN PRIDE

A. To our Personality

1. Become self-centered, and therefore do not care for other people
2. Attitude that repels other people
3. Pride is the only disease that makes everyone sick but the one who has it.
4. Become lonely and feel unwanted, and unloved

B. To our soul

1. Pro. 16:18 "Pride goeth before destruction:..."
2. II Tim. 3:2 "...lovers of self...proud..."
3. Pride in its most basic form is replacing "God" with "me"; putting "me" where only God should be.
 - a. Life + ME - God = pride
 - b. Life + GOD - me = holiness
4. Pride is at the root of many sins
 - a. I Jn. 2:15-17
 - b. Pride of life - is of the world

III. PRIDE CAUSES HARM TO THE CHURCH

A. To those in the church

1. Strife among members - lack of love
2. Fellowship is broken - Ps. 133:1

B. To those outside the church

1. Repulsive to them
2. Recognize them as hypocrites

CONCLUSION

1. Pride is like medicine, it is beneficial in very small measures, but harmful in large quantities
 - a. We must have self-respect. We are a person of worth and importance
 - b. We must love our self in order to properly love others
 - c. God wisely designed the human body so that we can neither pat our own backs nor kick ourselves too easily.
 - d. Paul described himself as the chiefest of sinners. (I Tim. 1:15), but he also said he was not one whit behind the chiefest of the apostles. II Cor.11:5
2. The Pride that is condemned is an attitude:
 - a. PUFFED UP-
 - b. RIDICULES -
 - c. IMPRESS -
 - d. DESPISES -
 - e. ENJOYS
3. Be clothed in humility - I Pet. 5:5 "Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.""
4. There is perhaps no one of our natural passions so hard to subdue as pride. Beat it down, stifle it, mortify it as much as one pleases, it is still alive. Even if I could conceive that I had completely overcome it, I should probably be proud of my humility. Benjamin Franklin, from his autobiography.
5. Destroy the pride we have or it will destroy us

6. PRO. 16:19 "Better it is to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, then to divide the spoil with the proud."
7. Matt. 5:3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Sermon by Arthur Pigman - Sunday evening Jan. 18, 2009
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