

# PRIDE

- I. Representative references to "pride"
  - A. Hebrew words in Old Testament
    - 1. *geah, gaavah* - "proud, haughty"  
Prov. 8:13 - "pride, arrogance and the evil way"  
Prov. 29:23 - "a man's pride will bring him low"
    - 2. *zed, zaddon* - "pride, presumption"  
Prov. 11:2 - "when pride comes, then comes dishonor"  
Prov. 13:10 - "through presumption comes nothing but strife"
  - B. Greek words in New Testament
    - 1. *hyperephania* - "to appear above, high"  
Mk. 7:22 - "pride...proceeds from within and defiles a man"  
Rom. 1:30 - "insolent, *arrogant*, boastful, inventors of evil..."  
James 4:6 - "God is opposed to proud, but gives grace to humble"  
I Pet. 5:5 - "God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to humble"
    - 2. *kauchema, kauchaomai* - "to boast"  
Rom. 11:20 - "do not be conceited, but fear God"  
I Cor. 1:31 - "let him who boasts, boast in the Lord" (II Cor. 10:17)  
Gal. 6:14 - "should not boast, except in cross of our Lord..."  
Eph. 2:9 - "...that no one should boast"
    - 3. *alazon, alazoneia* - "to boast"  
Rom. 1:30 - "insolent, arrogant, *boastful*..."  
II Tim. 3:2 - "*boastful*, arrogant, revilers..."  
I Jn. 2:16 - "the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father..."
    - 4. *doxa* - "to glory"  
Jn. 5:44 - "glory from one another,... do not seek glory of God"
- II. Defining "pride"
  - A. Root meanings
    - 1. Heb. and Gk. word roots: "high, lifted up, rise, lofty, exalted"
    - 2. Pride involves self-exaltation, haughtiness, conceit, presumption
    - 3. "Thinking more highly of oneself than one ought" (Rom. 12:3)
  - B. Pride and sinfulness
    - 1. Is pride the root or essence of all sin?
    - 2. Pride is self-orientation, contrary to character of God
    - 3. Every person has developed patterns of pride (S.E.L.F.)
  - C. Positive and negative senses of "pride"
    - 1. Positive - high opinion of God and what He has done  
Rom. 15:17 - "reason for boasting in things of God"  
II Cor. 1:12 - "proud confidence...in the grace of God"  
II Cor. 10:17 - "boast in the Lord"
    - 2. Negative - high opinion of oneself; egocentricity  
Rom. 12:16 - "haughty in mind"  
Phil. 2:3,4 - "selfishness, empty conceit...personal interests"
  - D. Direct and indirect "pride"
    - 1. Asserted pride
      - a. Based on conceit
      - b. self-commendation, self-exaltation
    - 2. Inverted pride
      - a. Based on insecurities and perceived inadequacies
      - b. self-condemnation, self-effacing; "poor me"

- III. Various forms of "pride"
- A. Self-admiration - "Look at me!"
    - 1. Natural - my abilities, talents, assets
    - 2. Spiritual - my spiritual gifts, my ministry
  - B. Self-aggrandizement - "Don't I look good/great?"
    - 1. Natural - my looks, my importance
    - 2. Spiritual - my position in the church
  - C. Self-attention - "Listen to me!"
    - 1. Natural - my understanding and viewpoint
    - 2. Spiritual - my Biblical and theological knowledge
  - D. Self-justification - "I am right!"
    - 1. Natural - my way is the right way
    - 2. Spiritual - our doctrine and polity is right
  - E. Self-sufficiency - "I can do it!"
    - 1. Natural - my abilities, my leadership
    - 2. Spiritual - our programs will make it happen
  - F. Self-aspiration - "Let me win!"
    - 1. Natural - competitive spirit; one-up-manship
    - 2. Spiritual - our statistics will prove us successful
  - G. Self-seeking - "Give me mine!"
    - 1. Natural - my rights; what I deserve
    - 2. Spiritual - our political rights and physical edifice
  - H. Self-exaltation - "Praise me!"
    - 1. Natural - my credit, glory, commendation
    - 2. Spiritual - our procedures and success
- IV. Results of "pride"
- A. Contention - Prov. 13:10 - "through presumption comes strife" (Prov. 28:25)
  - B. Dishonor - Prov. 11:2 - "when pride comes, then comes dishonor"
  - C. Not right with God - Hab. 2:4 - "proud one, soul not right within him..."
  - D. Denies God - Ps. 10:3,4 - "in haughtiness does not seek Him..."
  - E. Fall, bring low
    - Prov. 16:18 - "pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before stumbling" (Prov. 18:12)
    - Prov. 29:23 - "a man's pride will bring him low"
    - Isa. 2:11 - "the loftiness of man will be humbled" (Jere. 13:15-17)
- V. Antithesis of "pride"
- A. Humility - recognizing and accepting our rightful place of subordination to and dependency upon God
    - Rom. 12:16 - "associate with the lowly"
    - Phil. 2:3 - "with humility of mind let each regard one another as more important than himself. Look out for interests of others."
    - James 4:6 - "God gives grace to the humble. Submit therefore to God"
    - I Pet. 5:5,6 - "clothe yourself with humility, for God gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves under God."
  - B. Boast in the Lord
    - Jere. 9:23,24 - "let him who boasts boast that he knows Me"
    - I Cor. 1:31 - "let him who boasts, boast in the Lord"
    - II Cor. 10:17 - "he who boasts, let him boast in the Lord"