

Sword & Song News

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For almost ten years now without fail, at least three times a week, I've patronized a nearby coffee shop that I've come to consider my second office. It's there in that noisy, coffee-smelling saturated atmosphere that I go to write and study and where I also love to people watch while savoring my favorite hot chocolate drink, without whipped cream of course. I've never been a coffee connoisseur. The bitter brew has never appealed to me and never will. So there three times a week I've made it my practice to position myself in front of the shop's large picture window where I can observe the usual unpredictable tango between the cars and their drivers that I've come to expect with any parking lot. I personally dread the necessity of navigating parking lots because one never knows what's going to erupt. The most competent driver can suddenly transform into a vehicular maniac lawlessly maneuvering through a maze of rows of unsuspecting cars and do things that would never otherwise cross the mind. Laws and common sense doesn't seem to exist in parking lots, or at least my frequent observations at the coffee shop have made me think this. You see, the street in front of my "second office" is a one-way street, clearly marked and sandwiched between two slanted rows of parking spaces. I've lost count of how many visits I've made there, but without fail, and often nearly ending in catastrophe, willfully blind drivers deliberately go the wrong way down this one way street almost always colliding with cars reversing out of their spots. Every time I've watched this awful dance, the inconsiderate driver either stares straight ahead intentionally ignoring the reactions of the stunned and often shaken drivers of the parked cars, or if on rare occasions they're confronted for their misdirection, they shout obscenities or retort in explosive rage unwilling to acknowledge their wrongful action. Thankfully I haven't witnessed a collision as of yet. But even though no accident has occurred a far dee-

THE SAD Subtleties OF PRIDE

By Dr. Tamara Winslow

PART 2

per problem re-surfaces each time this happens revealing how blindly our society has degenerated into carnal, selfish, lawless pride. Even when caught in the act of deliberate disobedience to the law, the guilty person feels no conviction, and defends the right to be wrong no matter whom it affects. This is the epitome of ungodly pride.

The first article in this series examined the unloving and dishonoring nature of pride revealing two distinct categories of pride identified by dissecting the numerous Hebrew and Greek words translated as pride and the synonyms for pride. The primary distinction between these two categories is the defining factor of whether true love is present or not. Once these two categories of pride were detailed, as ungodly pride and godly pride, a definition for the ungodly form of pride was then presented so to better study the subtle demonic characteristic while making room for godly forms of confidence often jumbled into the same bag as

ungodly pride. Here's a reminder of what ungodly pride is defined as.

Pride is a deceptive attitude with corroborating actions that demonstrate self-exaltation, superiority and seeking a sense of importance over others- spiritually, relationally, vocationally, and financially- while disregarding Jesus as Lord, love, authority structures, policies, boundaries, and the needs of others. It is always right, never wrong. It Edges God Out, inflated by EGO, eventually alienating people for the purpose of accomplishing self-serving goals, even in the name of pursuing greater spirituality. It is the manifest presence of satanic nature.

Moving onward we must identify the different types of ungodly pride as strated in Scripture. Regrettably no matter how I endeavored to condense this terial it was impossible. Although this study can be quite tedious please read carefully through the following categorical definitions and think about how they might apply to you as an individual and the groups you're associated with such as your family, city, church, nation, generation and culture.

There are as many types and manifestations of pride as there are people and situations. That is why it is so difficult to recognize that pride is behind the conflicts we face as human beings. The example of the proud car driver is as basic as it comes. But what does the Bible have to say about the types of pride common to human-kind?

Pride is most commonly associated with evil or wickedness and generally speaking to fallen humanity whether it be individuals or groups. It is often spoken of as a very general condition and in the verses related to this general type of pride one will notice many of the ways pride operates. These operations of pride will be discussed in another article. Here are a few of the most significant verses related to our subject..

Pr 8:13 The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: **pride**, and **arrogancy**, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.

Pr 17:19 He loveth transgression that loveth strife: and he that **exalteth his gate** seeketh destruction.

Pr 18:12 Before destruction the heart of man is **haughty**, and before honour is humility.

Pr 16:18 **Pride** goeth before destruction, and an **haughty** spirit before a fall.

Pr 11:2 When **pride** cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom.

Pr 13:10 Only by **pride** cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom.

Job 41:34 He beholdeth all **high** things: he is a king over all the children of **pride**

The most significant type of pride and the one with the widest range of applications is the *pride of life*. Nearly every form of pride falls into this category.

1Jo 2:16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the **pride** of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

The pride of life is determined by understanding what the word "life" means and refers to in the New Testament Greek. The Greek word "bios" translated as

life in this verse refers to the manner of life or the course that life takes as pertaining to wealth, pleasure, desires, lusts, one's business, even one's status in life. The pride of life is a pride that emerges out of an ungodly perspective in these things and is nurtured by the spirit of the world. The moment that wealth, pleasure of any sort, desire, lusts, our vocation or even our status becomes our focus, or priority, then the wickedness of worldly dynamics take over and carnal identity replaces the humble intimacy and meaningful expression God's love

and honor needs to function. People who don't have the pride of

life are noted by one outstanding loving quality. They live to give sacrificially and without seeking notoriety. The needy widow lived to offer her widow's mite. The compassionate soul sees the needs of others and

unselfishly seeks to meet the need. The pride of life prevents any form of love, generosity or kindness and is blind to the needs of others. Those who demonstrate it thrive in selfishness contrary to God's loving nature even when they may claim to be the most spiritual person alive.

Mark 12:44 For all they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living.(BIOS) KJV (Luke 21:4)

1 John 3:17 But whoso hath this world's **good (BIOS)**, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? KJV

As you'll see in the following list, there are many different Biblical categories of pride. We'll examine the most significant and applicable of these but won't cover every type for the sake of time and space. I believe, however, the types we do examine will help you recognize the magnitude of this issue and create a desire within you to overcome it. My greatest concern is that as readers study this they'll begin to point accusing fingers at people they've judged as proud, ironically exposing their own. Let God be the one to deal with other people. You deal with your own heart. When Peter was bothered about at would happen to John, the beloved disciple, Jesus said "What is that to you? You follow Me!" We must follow Jesus!



There are as many types & manifestations of pride as there are people & situations.

The Pride of Life is manifested in the following types of pride

PRIDE SPOKEN OF IN A GENERAL SENSE- AS IN PRIDE OF THE HEART
Sub Categories- Individual & Group- Nations, Families, Organizations, Association

PRIDE RELATED TO PHYSICAL IDENTITY OR CHARACTERISTICS

PRIDE OF AGE PRIDE OF STATURE- HEIGHT- TALL
PRIDE OF GREATNESS, POMP, MAJESTY, SIZE
PRIDE OF WEALTH & POSSESSIONS
PRIDE OF BEAUTY OR APPEARANCE PRIDE RELATED TO GENDER
PRIDE OF NATIONALITY, RACE & CULTURE, ASSOCIATION, FAMILIES, & ANY SORT OF COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIP

PRIDE RELATED TO SPIRITUAL IDENTITY OR CHARACTERISTICS

PRIDE OF SUCCESS & ACCOMPLISHMENT- Ones works
PRIDE OF EXPERIENCE & TRADITION PRIDE OF INFLUENCE
PRIDE OF POSITION PRIDE OF POWER/ STRENGTH
PRIDE OF KNOWLEDGE, IMAGINATIONS, EDUCATION, & LEARNING

PRIDE RELATED TO REPUTATION

PRIDE OF SUCCESS & ACCOMPLISHMENT PRIDE OF POSITION
PRIDE OF POWER/ STRENGTH PRIDE OF FAME
PRIDE OF FAMILY BACKGROUND & NAME

PRIDE RELATED TO BEHAVIORAL CHARACTERISTICS

PRIDE OF THE MOUTH PRIDE OF THE EYES
PRIDE OF THE COUNTENANCE

Pride isn't restricted to individual expression. In fact there are numerous Biblical examples where ungodly pride affected large groups of people, societies, cultures, organizations, families, nations and even races. Corporate or communal pride is by far the most difficult to confront and repent of. A shared ungodly form of pride can seldom be corrected because the proud group is generally blind to its existence. Furthermore, once an association or relational link is established and embraced as part of the identity, if pride is present, and even if the persons are absent from that group, they will not move on to integrate with other groups, all because of pride.

Isa 16:6 We have heard of the pride of Moab; he is very proud: even of his haughtiness, and his pride, and his wrath: but his lies shall not be so.

Romans 11:25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.KJV

The Bible cites numerous examples of proud nations. The Amomite national pride compared them to the towering heights of a cedar tree. (Amos 2:9). Entire generations can fall prey to pride and Biblically were said to be haughty, having arrogant eyes in Proverbs 30:13. The heathen nations of Assyria, the Philistines, Edom, Egypt and Moab were all called proud while Babylon, and the Chaldean empire was said to be the most proud (Jer. 50:31-32). Sadly, God's people aren't exempt from this list of haughtiness. Israel and the Gentile church are both identified as guilty of pride (Rom. 11:20-25) The Hebrew children, Jerusalem, Judah, and the daughters of Zion are equally called proud and this

is just the tip of the iceberg. Pride excels in an atmosphere where people think more highly of themselves than they should think! How sad to think that an entire group of people can be self-deceived and not even know it.

Romans 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.KJV

Gal 6:3 For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself. KJV

Virtually any type of pride can be individualized. Remembering this is fundamental to understanding how pride works. Therefore, let's look at the different basic categories of pride associated by similarity in Scripture and manifestation.

PRIDE RELATED TO PHYSICAL IDENTITY OR CHARACTERISTICS



The most obvious yet frequently overlooked category of pride is a pride related to individual or shared physical identity and characteristics. This type of pride affects a wide range of human identity and expression.

Age brings with it a variety of pride-based challenges. Each age group carries with it a different type of pride equally as problematic. Years should develop wisdom and maturity although in many cases they don't. Although this may vary per person and nationally sociologists estimate that the actual emotional maturity of the various generations living today are shockingly lower than what might be expected. Persons born between 1945-

1958(ish) known as the Baby Boomers are said to have an emotional maturity of 9-17 years old. Those born between 1960-1985(ish) or identified Generation X are said to be emotionally 7-12 years old. Finally, Generation Y, people born between 1985-2000(ish) are said to be 7-15 years old. Consequently, much of the Western influenced world is emotionally immature with adult men and women being actually more like teenagers and pre-teens. This creates some serious problems because pride takes on a new wardrobe and becomes more difficult to discern and recognize.

1 Sam 17:22 And David left his carriage in the hand of the keeper of the carriage, and ran into the army, and came and saluted his brethren.23 And as he talked with them, behold, there came up the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, out of the armies of the Philistines, and spake according to the same words: and David heard them.24 And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid.25 And the men of Israel said, Have ye seen this man that is come up? surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, that the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel.26 And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?27 And the people answered him after this manner, saying, So shall it be done to the man that killeth him. 28 And Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spake unto the men; and Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, Why camest thou down hither? and with whom hast thou left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know thy pride, and

the naughtiness of thine heart; for thou art come down that thou mightest see the battle.²⁹ And David said, What have I now done? Is there not a cause?³⁰ And he turned from him toward another, and spake after the same manner: and the people answered him again after the former manner. ³¹ And when the words were heard which David spake, they rehearsed them before Saul: and he sent for him.³² And David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine. ³³ And Saul said to David, Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.KJV

1 Tim 4:12 Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. KJV

1 Kings 12:6 And king Rehoboam consulted with the old men, that stood before Solomon his father while he yet lived, and said, How do ye advise that I may answer this people?⁷ And they spake unto him, saying, If thou wilt be a servant unto this people this day, and wilt serve them, and answer them, and speak good words to them, then they will be thy servants for ever.⁸ But he forsook the counsel of the old men, which they had given him, and consulted with the young men that were grown up with him, and which stood before him: KJV

The battle between the generational age groups is nothing new. Scriptures cite numerous problems with this very thing. Elders, due respect, are scorned as out of touch and irrelevant to current life by younger progressive members of society and Church. Furthermore, since the emerging of the Baby Boomer generation and the acquiring of its voice in the early 1960's, something previously unheard of concerning youth, who were to be seen and not heard, a new type of pride developed affecting the youth of future generations. That pride is at the root of an entangled mess of problems now emerging in society. On the other hand, young people, knowledgeable, highly skilled and in the Christian sense, called and anointed carrying new and God given ideas face discrimination from the older generations that reveals the pride of age in a historic and Biblically cited manner.

The young shepherd boy David was ridiculed by his elder brethren shortly after he began to address the soldiers fearful of the giant Goliath. Had he succumbed to the arrogant mockery of his older brothers Goliath might not have been defeated and the greatest king of Israel might never have risen to the throne. Pride of age cripples and prevents the working together of the generations. Sadly, whenever the pride of youth presumes to know more, have more, and need nothing from the elder generations, honor is inevitably broken down and the wisdom of years is cast aside. Lawless behaviors eventually ensue. Young King Rehoboam abandoned the counsel of the older men who counseled his father, Solomon, preferring the counsel of his friends. Regrettably this pattern is repeating today. The sociological generations known as Generations X and Y, born between 1960-2000, consider their friends their best counselors and view friends as more important than family and elders. These characteristics are due to the issues generated in the 1960's-1980's. Nothing can replace the tests of time and long life experience. We need more gray hair in society and the Church functioning as helpful guides, overseers and anchors to slow down impe-

tuous choices youth can often make. Regrettably the accumulating pride of previous generations is now bearing fruit. We need one another desperately.

Pride of Stature, Height, Tallness

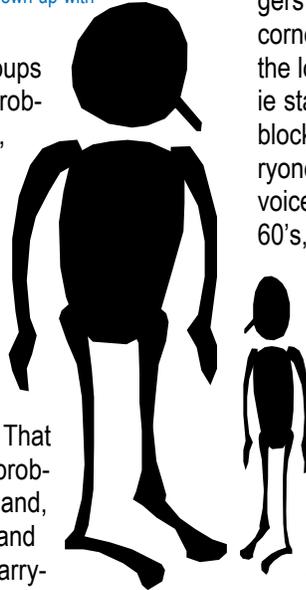
The Hebrew and Greek words translated as pride and its synonyms are also almost always translated as something's height or tallness. This must be considered when discussing pride.

Many years ago, after having boarded the plane I was to take, I watched the dynamics of this type of pride operate in full gear. The flight attendant, a lovely woman, was assisting the passengers to find their places when suddenly she got backed into the corner of the plane galley and her attentions were taken over by the loud flamboyant, flatteries and flirtatious advances of a "movie star good looking" tall man. Hovering over her petite frame he blocked all incoming passengers using his height to prevent everyone's forward movement. Other passengers near me quietly voiced their shock at his forwardness. One man probably in his 60's, sitting beside me grumbled, "Get the conceited brute outta here." I watched to see how the flight attendant responded and she was noticeably embarrassed. Finally after the assistance of the other passengers the man sat down. He towered above the rest of the people and used his height as a means of arrogant control. I'd never seen such a demonstration of the pride of height before this.

Now before I go any further and you as the reader think I'm guilty of making sweeping generalizations saying that all tall people live in this category of pride, please stop. Tallness doesn't mean one is automatically proud. Pride is an attitude of heart that uses whatever it has to take advantage of others. Therefore, when individuals use their height to dominate others, then pride is present.

I used to play basketball as a teen and still love to shoot hoops whenever I get the chance. When I was 17 years old I got the opportunity to play against one of the better guards on our team. We were scrimmaging. She soared head and shoulders above me. It was also common knowledge that she had a huge problem with pride. I remember the scrimmage as clearly as if it was today. Someone bounce-passed the ball to me and I happened to be at the top of the key. I prayed in my heart for grace to avoid her as she attempted to block any move I made. To my thrill and probably everyone's shock, I managed to shoot a left-handed hook shot that arched above her lengthy arms and swished through the net. I'll never forget the look on her face or my team. Of course than I had to battle pride too. But once again height can be related to pride.

The Bible calls various groups of people proud because of their height. The Anakims, known as the giants of ancient Biblical times mentioned in Deut. 1:28, 9:1-2, terrified the Hebrew children because of their tallness. The fear of that height over-



whelmed God's people disabling them and securing the Anakim's habitations. However, this pride doesn't have to win.

De 1:28 Whither shall we go up? our brethren have discouraged our heart, saying, The people is greater and **taller** than we; the cities are great and walled up to heaven; and moreover we have seen the sons of the Anakims there.

De 9:2 A people great and **tall**, the children of the Anakims, whom thou knowest, and of whom thou hast heard say, Who can stand before the children of Anak!

Nations such as Egypt and Assyria were compared to tall trees and their height was directly linked to pride. Various individuals such as Saul before he was crowned king; Eliab, David's elder brother and Goliath, the famous Philistine giant, all were noted for their height and their pride. Regrettably, height can deceive an outsider into believing that tallness is also bigness in godly character. Height has often been a determining factor in choosing leaders. Such was the case in both Saul and Goliath. But height doesn't always imply capability. Samuel the prophet nearly anointed Eliab, David's older brother, to be king, because he looked at Eliab's natural stature. God prevented him from doing so because God sees the heart, and preferred the smaller shepherd boy David instead. History will remind us that height plays a role in leadership but not always. For example, Napoleon, the famous general of France, was small in stature but large in personality. Height was not the influencing factor in this case.

1Sa 9:2 And he had a son, whose name was Saul, a choice young man, and a goodly: and there was not among the children of Israel a goodlier person than he: from his shoulders and upward he was **higher** than any of the people.

1Sa 10:23 And they ran and fetched him thence: and when he stood among the people, he was **higher** than any of the people from his shoulders and upward.

1Sa 16:7 But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the **height** of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

Pride of Greatness, Pomp, Majesty & Size

The achievement of greatness, size, majesty and pomp is not only a type of pride but these conditions are also a reason that pride occurs. The Hebrew words rendered as pride are also the same words translated as greatness. Greatness and pride can easily become companions unless the heart attitude is adjusted. Throughout the Scriptures, nations, cities and individuals are noted for their greatness, pomp and majesty while at the same time their superior attitude is criticized. Greatness doesn't have to be associated with pride, but it is a very real temptation in its direction. Babylon, Nineveh (Jon. 3:2, 4:11) and Egypt (Eze. 30:18; 32:12) were chided for their proud pomp and warned of inevitable destruction. Furthermore, individuals are equally cautioned to avoid seeking to be great for the sake of greatness and are urged to learn how to behave when in the presence of great individuals.

The wrong attitude when dealing with persons known to possess greatness can destroy the most gifted of individuals.

Pr 25:6 Put not forth thyself in the presence of the king, and stand not in the place of **great** men:

Pr 18:16 A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him **before great men**.

Pr 14:3 In the mouth of the foolish is a rod of pride <01346>: but the lips of the wise shall preserve them.

1Sa 25:2 And there was a man in Maon, whose possessions were in Carmel; and the man was very great, and he had three thousand sheep, and a thousand goats: and he was shearing his sheep in Carmel.

Nabal, a man identified as being very great, was also a man eventually revealed to be a fool. His name actually means fool and in spite of his incredible wealth and influence, he displayed the type of pride related to self-absorbed greatness and folly. Such individuals care nothing about the needs and stature of others, wrongly interpreting the most genuine act of helpfulness, as weakness or manipulation. His fate was sealed when he spoke against God's anointed David all because his pride blinded him to God's plan.

Great leaders are most vulnerable to this form of pride. The larger their kingdom or work becomes, the more untouchable and self-serving they can be. Pharaoh (Eze 17:3-9, 17; 29:3) and Sennacherib, king of Assyria (Isa. 36:4,13) are cited as great but nonetheless haughty and destined for God's judgment. Greatness of this sort breeds an arrogant attitude that no longer

recognizes any other leader and with a sense of superiority believes it no longer needs relationship, accountability and deserves worship. Commanding large groups of workers, they feel invincible when in fact they're doomed to fall. Any leader is prone to this self-deception and needs to beware its subtlety.

Pride of Wealth, Possessions & Glory – One of the foremost types of the Pride of life-

1Jo 2:16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the **pride** of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

The pride of life probably affects humankind more in this arena of life than any other. As previously mentioned, the word life comes from the Greek word bios, used 11 times in the New Testament. Seven of those references refer to life in one's wealth, worldly goods and possessions great or small. Persons dominated by this type of the pride of life derive their worth and importance from their possessions and worldly goods. It is very closely related to the concept of wealth as being one's **glory** mentioned in Isaiah 23:9 that God says He'll deliberately judge.

Isa 23:9 The LORD of hosts hath purposed it, to stain the pride of all glory, and to bring into contempt all the honourable of the earth.

There is a false sense of security associated with this form of pride. It produces an attitude of conceitedness and ignores the needs of others because those who practice this form of pride



believe that nothing can touch them or harm them. Significantly, the Hebrew children were warned not to yield to this attitude after their deliverance out of Egypt but they eventually fell into it. Their downfall began when they forgot their roots and the hardships and bondage that they were delivered out of. Having gradually prospered after the Exodus pride sat waiting to pounce on their slowly developing success and independent accumulation of things as they gradually ignored God. The amassing of wealth without the continued remembrance of God's delivering power is like an ungodly spiritual sedative. It deadens the humble heart and cancels out sacrificial giving in favor of a feeling of self-assured accomplishment. It is also the same sinful course that the prince of Tyrus, often acclaimed to be another representation for Satan, who became increased in wealth and arrogantly posing God. Beware this form of pride at all costs.

Proverbs 18:11 The rich man's wealth is his strong city, and as an high wall in his own conceit. KJV

Proverbs 28:11 The rich man is wise in his own conceit; but the poor that hath understanding searcheth him out. KJV

De 8:14 Then thine heart be lifted up, and thou forget the LORD thy God, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage;

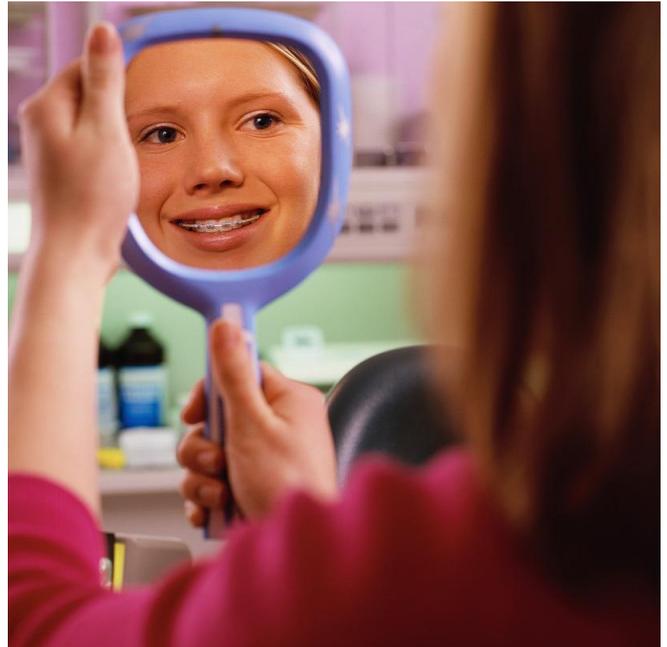
Eze 28:5 By thy great wisdom and by thy traffick hast thou increased thy riches, and thine heart is lifted up because of thy riches:

There is an odd distortion to this form of pride that in some ways is often mistaken as humility when in fact it's from the very evil root we just considered. There is a pride of wealth or possessions that has nothing to do with excess or abundance of wealth. It is a pride that revels in its poverty and is too arrogant to receive help when help is offered.

Pride of Beauty & Appearance

The unwitting absorption of Greek philosophy into Christianity has made way for the proud attitude of beauty and appearance. The ancient Greeks worshiped beauty, youth and aesthetics of all sorts. These views have so integrated themselves into traditional Christian doctrine that few Christians are even aware of it. In fact when attempting to confront the philosophies of Socrates, Plato and Aristotle as affecting our beliefs, believers stare in puzzlement. On the other hand, there is an emerging interest in exposing and removing the Greek mindsets affecting Church doctrine. Regrettably I've noticed and been heartbroken by saints who say they want to remove the Hellenistic roots out of their faith and then when those lies begin to be exposed, and choices have to be made to remove them, those same saints who said they wanted to correct the errors, back away and say they don't want to. Greek Philosophy affects at least 18 areas of Christian beliefs. Most of these are so deeply ingrained in accepted Christian teaching that when they're exposed, it's too uncomfortable. So as a result some of the lies of Aristotle and Plato are renounced, but the ones that are too close to age-old comfort zones are defensively protected in the name of "what I believe". Even when these lies can be proven that they're lies, I've faced established leaders who say, "I don't care if you can

prove it and it's accurate, I refuse to believe it. It's who I am". I'm always shocked and disappointed when this occurs, but to be honest, most people don't want to face the truth and change because it means they'll have to alter their lifestyles. Considering this, today's "youth culture" or "Peter Pan" idealism has infiltrated into the Church affecting how Christians must look and be. This worship of "beauty" is one of the deadliest and most ancient enemies opposing Christians today. It isn't, however, a new problem.



David's son, Absalom was considered one of the most handsome young men of his time. His looks were renowned and eventually that praise went to his head. Without consideration for the rest of the royal brood he plotted to usurp his father's rightful authority and arrogantly manipulated the impressionable and needy souls of the kingdom, stealing their hearts with promises and flattery. Haughtiness overcame him when his love for the people's praises defeated common sense and crushed humility. (2 Sam. 15:1-6)

2 Sam 14:25 But in all Israel there was none to be so much praised as Absalom for his beauty: from the sole of his foot even to the crown of his head there was no blemish in him.

Eze 28:17 Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

The originator of this sin was Satan as represented by the prince of Tyrus mentioned in Eze. 28:17. Genuine physical vanity originates with the nature of Satan and ends in humiliation. The question we must ask then is it wrong to dress nicely, and be concerned about one's appearance?

A fear of personal vanity in one's appearance is as dangerous as actual sinful vanity is and it contributes to a host of behaviors and attitudes that contradict the transforming work of God in salvation through the New Birth as well as the mutual calling of the saint to be a constant ambassador for Christ. There is a vast difference of opinion on this subject in nearly every denomination, Christian group and spiritual movement. Regrettably when healthy self-image goes awry than slothfulness, filthiness and sloppiness replaces how one dresses, practices hygiene, and personal grooming. Individuals who fear the vanity of appearance are just proud as those who live to look like fashion icons. You're an ambassador of Christ and therefore you represent a King. Don't ever allow your appearance to contradict the preciousness of that message because of fear of being vain. Give God your best, seeking His Kingdom first and always look like an ambassador for whatever you're able to manage.

Matt 6:30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? 31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? 32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. KJV

Pride related to Gender

Gal 3:27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. KJV

There is probably no more controversial expression of pride than the pride related to the conflicts between the genders. Gender conflict or the *war of the sexes* is no new issue. But too often this form of pride or "ego" isn't recognized as having two sides. Both genders are guilty of discriminating against each other, often accomplishing nothing in the battle and inadvertently enabling the powers of darkness hindering the work of God. Like the Pride of Beauty and Appearance, the greatest contributing factor in society and traditional Christianity, is the Greek philosophies. Greek philosophy and it' teachers have affected many of the Bible translations we use as well as subtly but corruptly influencing the doctrinal interpretation of Scripture that have fundamentally influenced our attitudes pertaining to the genders. The philo-

CHECKLIST FOR HOW TO DO ACCURATE EXCITING BIBLE STUDY

HOW YOU INTERPRET THE BIBLE WILL DETERMINE HOW YOU APPROACH ANY SUBJECT

INTERPRETATION & APPLICATION AFFECT EACH OTHER

WHAT EYES & EARS ARE YOU INTERPRETING THINGS THROUGH?

External influences affecting how we read & interpret the Bible

Culture Social Ethnic Gender Economy Offenses
Family Background Traditions Personality Greek philosophy
Ecclesiastical Tradition- established by its own view of past heritage
Religious experience & background, denominational interpretations
Other Philosophies Your Age & Generation

THE 3 REQUIREMENTS TO ACCURATELY INTERPRET SCRIPTURE

1. USING THE LITERARY CONTEXT

Consider the literary forms & condition of the message such as:

A letter, a prophetic vision, an account of an event etc.

Consider the languages used & their origins

Examine the grammar & how the words are used, & the means they're communicated in.

Consider the intention of the author

2. INTERPRETING THROUGH HISTORICAL CONTEXT

What does it include?

Ancient culture- What were the Local needs & situations needing direction at the time. Different directives for different times & locales.

Different directives for different historical situations & needs.

Ancient Mediterranean cultures, religions, economic conditions, & philosophies radically affect the interpretation of especially Paul's passages.

3. INTERPRETING THROUGH THE ENTIRETY OF THE CANON OR THE COLLECTION OF THE WRITINGS OF SCRIPTURE.

Three forms of witness in the Canon

1. The Consistent Witness is one where a repeated theme is threaded throughout Scripture & can't be questioned in any form as to its accuracy.

2. The Diverse witness is one where a theme is repeated but not constant & is consistent with historical tests.

3. The Isolated Witness is a where one example of doing something isn't to be understood as a central normative teaching of the whole Bible to guide & inform, church practice, policy or faith expression.

The benefits of the witness of the entire Canon brings perspective, balance & consistency to the texts. Without these error develops.

**TO DISREGARD THE 3 DEGREES OF INTERPRETATION IS TO TAKE
OBSCURE PASSAGES & MAKE THEM AN ABSOLUTE LAW
INSTEAD OF GOSPEL WITHOUT CONSIDERATION FOR GOD
WORKING WITH EACH TIME, PEOPLE, CULTURE, ETC.**

sophical writings of especially Aristotle and Plato caused unbelievable contamination in the establishment of the doctrinal position of the early Church Fathers. Many volumes could be written about this if there were time, and if Christians would be willing to truly study this subject, great positive change could be affected in the Church and world at large. This process was very gradual but it became the corrupting force behind the satanically inspired battle between the sexes originating with Satan's enmity toward the woman who exposed his deceptive work in the garden. (Gen. 3:15) Rather than stay true to God's gracious deliverance for both genders, granted equally through the New Birth when Jesus crushed the serpent's head and exposed Satan's enmity. Regrettably most, though not all of the early Church fathers very gradually embraced Aristotle's and Plato's philosophies about male and female, while also introducing pagan practices into Christian doctrine eventually affecting Church doctrine and interpretation throughout Europe and eventually the world. Sadly these statements alone are enough to incite hostile reaction, rage and debate because the collection of those philosophical lies, are deeply entrenched in Church leaders and believers who haven't been taught anything else. Nonetheless, there is a Pride affecting the Genders and won't be corrected until we recognize that our enemy isn't the opposite gender as ourselves.

Amnon, one of the sons of David, lusted after his beautiful sister Tamar. Plotting to illegally to satisfy his perversion he arranged a situation where he could be alone with her and overcome her. This aggression, although inflamed by lust, originates out of a pride of gender whereby the male overpowered the young woman. There are many factors involved with this type of pride but the results always result in the female being shamed.

Shame is not part of the character of God and yet it's not even recognized or questioned when the pride of gender manifests. Furthermore, the moment gender conflicts occur, God's grace is forcibly ignored; law and carnality become the basis for shameful condescension. Neither male nor female should ever be subject to shame. Shame means that something is viewed as second-class or inferior. This form of pride thrills to shame either of the genders. Regrettably because Christians either don't want to set aside the Greek philosophies affecting so many, or they haven't taken the time to think through all the implications related to these things. Hence shame and pride remain.

Another instance where the Bible illustrates this form of pride is in the case of Jezebel the Sidonian wife of Ahab. I hesitate to use Jezebel as an example, because honestly, due to the unrealized pollutions of Greek Philosophy affecting many Christian's interpretation of marital roles, I'm concerned many readers could interpret these concepts through the hidden Humanistic filters

they possess and read this wrongly and be offended. So before I talk about Jezebel and how she used her femininity to conquer the men around her, I want to quote from the writings of several Bible scholars pertaining to Ahab her husband. Contrary to popular and often poorly researched general teaching, Ahab wasn't a wimp as many have painted him to be. In fact, nearly every historical and Biblical commentator states unequivocally that Ahab was a very powerful man, a formidable personality, a gifted and tactical military strategist, and though short sighted to his religious convictions, a fearsome leader. He however did have a problem. He married a pagan woman who had an agenda. On numerous occasions she ignored the fact she wasn't king and her governmental authority was limited. Her strength of will took advantage of a situation when her husband was upset and whining about not getting what he wanted. Using her most manipulative manner she mocked what was righteous, plotted the death of an innocent man by perpetrating false testimony with false witnesses and determined to have her way as a woman without considering the affects of what she did have on her husband and the men around her. As a woman she was despicable and was as guilty of demeaning men as Amnon was demeaning his sister.

PRIDE OF ONE'S NATIONALITY, RACE OR CULTURE

This form of pride is difficult to address because it attaches itself to the corporate identity and must be distinguished from patriotism or loyalties and belonging. When present, the Pride of Nationality, Race or Culture, can be discriminatory, demanding, vengeful, and racist. We'll look at how this pride operates and originates in a future article because like the pride of knowledge it attaches itself to the conscience. However,

consider this. This type of pride generally emerges when offense, achievement, disaster, war or catastrophe occurs. It is a form of pride we don't even recognize until nationalities, cultures and races have to relate. More about this type of pride in a future article.

PRIDE RELATED TO SPIRITUAL IDENTITY OR CHARACTERISTICS

PRIDE OF SUCCESS AND ACCOMPLISHMENT

Success and achievement are a dangerous breeding ground for another type of pride in our study. Any form of success can be the reason pride emerges, but especially spiritual success or accomplishment. I've noticed this especially in the cases when someone has delivered a prophecy and that word was correct and accomplished something. In nearly every case when I have seen this, the person delivering the prophecy became proud and thereafter assumed that anything he or she thought might be from God would be correct even if it wasn't. Spiritual success must be taken immediately to Jesus, as if you were casting your

**YOU NEVER KNOW IT ALL!
KEEP LEARNING NO MATTER
HOW OLD YOU BECOME!**

crown at his feet. Pride takes root when we take the credit for the success and start thinking of ourselves more highly than we ought to.

PRIDE OF EXPERIENCE & TRADITION

Have you heard someone say “We’ve always done it this way and we don’t think we need to change it.”? This is the pride of experience and tradition. Progress dies when this pride hits the brakes. David the Psalmist King of Israel introduced music into the worship ceremonies of the Tabernacle. Previous to that time music had only a small role in corporate worship. I’ve often wondered what would have happened if the Levites and priests would have refused to bring music into the corporate scenario. This pride silences the sometimes-spontaneity of the Holy Spirit, favoring instead the ritual of yesterday. Are you holding so tightly to how you’ve done things in the past, and taking security out of that familiarity that you can’t grow into what God wants you to do?

Pride of Position, Vocation and One’s Business

Position, importance, preeminence and what one does with one’s life in vocation or business are some of the most enticing reasons that this pride of life overtakes the soul. Amongst the saved and unsaved, pride of position, forces a need to be first by exchanging hard punches designed to knock someone else out of the running for first. It is therefore calloused, self-serving and murderous. This form of pride creates a false sense of worth and originates with Satan’s rebellion against God’s authority. Competition finds its roots in this pride and will stop at nothing to achieve its goal. The great king David realized how dangerous this self-deception was and wrote one of the finest heartfelt psalms we could all learn from. He was able to recognize what the condition of his heart was. We need to do the same.

Ps 131:1 A Song of degrees of David. LORD, my heart is not **haughty**, nor mine eyes lofty: neither do I exercise myself in great matters, or in things too high for me.

Isa 14:11 Thy **pomp** is brought down to the grave, and the noise of thy viols: the worm is spread under thee, and the worms cover thee.

Isa 14:13 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:



The Bible identifies the names of numerous spiritual beings and persons demonstrating the pride of position. Isaiah 14:10-13 describes Satan’s rebellious arrogance when he said he would ascend up to heaven, by exalting his throne above the stars of God, and making himself to be above God. The prince of Tyre is

quoted as saying similar things, directly associated with Satan’s attitude. (Eze. 28:3) In addition to this despicable list, the Anti-christ is described as a leader who demonstrates extreme pride. He will magnify himself above every god and speak against God to establish his demonic kingdom. (Dan. 11:12, 36) Finally, one of the most interesting of all demonic entities practicing pride is known as Leviathan. Theologians have debated back and forth whether Leviathan was a physical creature or an actual demonic prince. Not wanting to give this being more credence than it’s due, I still lean toward the thought that Leviathan is far more than an unidentified animal. I believe this because this entity is identified as the king of the children of pride and seems to possess unusual discernment in all things relating to high places of authority, knowledge, vocation and more. Christians who desire to serve God in high positions of influence must face, wrestle and defeat this foe through practicing humility if they’re to be victorious in God’s will. To do so they must have a tight grasp on the truths of what the New Birth has accomplished, otherwise they’ll attempt to contend with pride from carnal strength and fail miserably.

Job 41:34 He beholdeth all **high** things: he is a king over all the children of **pride**
Job 41:15 His scales are his **pride**, shut up together as with a close seal.

Both Christian and non-Christian leaders are identified as falling prey to this pride. Kings such as Hezekiah (2 Chron. 32:25-26), Uzziah (2 Chron. 26:16) Sennacherib-the king of Assyria (Isa. 10:12;2 Kings. 19:20-22) and Pharaoh (Neh.9:10) all took pride from their position to such an extent that they cared nothing for how their actions affected their subjects or whomever got in their way. The early church also faced its own struggle with ambitious leaders like Diotrophes who went as far as excluding the established apostolic leaders. This type of pride disregards recognized leaders and set leadership structures.

3 John 9 I wrote unto the church: but Diotrophes, who **loveth to have the preeminence among them**, receiveth us not.KJV

PRIDE OF POWER/ STRENGTH

Although mentioned only twice in Scripture this type of pride directly opposes everything related to God and His Kingdom. It is both individual and shared by nations and peoples. God also confronts it directly aiming to shatter both of the individual and corporate will expressing it. This type of pride manifests in a variety of ways including both attitude and expression. Persons practicing such pride become this way because they derive superiority from their material possessions, physical strength, social and political prowess. This pride is noted by the boastful manner it demonstrates. Inconsiderate volume or loudness is often associated with it. National groups exhibiting this are often verbally loud and obnoxious, generally unaware of how they’re perceived by others.

Lev. 26:19 And I will break the **pride of your power**; and I will make your heaven as iron, and your earth as brass:

Eze 30:6 Thus saith the LORD; They also that uphold Egypt shall fall; and the **pride of her power** shall come down: from the tower of Syene shall they fall in it by the sword, saith the Lord GOD.

PRIDE OF KNOWLEDGE, IMAGINATIONS, EDUCATION, & LEARNING- Pride of life

Luke 1:51 He has shown strength and made might with His arm; He has scattered the proud and haughty in and by the imagination and purpose and designs of their hearts. AMP

Rom 1:20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: 21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. 22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, 23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. 24 Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: 25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

2 Cor 10:5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; KJV

Isa 5:21 Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight! KJV

No matter how old you become, no matter how much formal education you're privileged to receive, no matter how many degrees you earn, YOU WILL NEVER KNOW IT ALL! With that said, make it a point to never stop learning. School never ends. Don't think that once you graduate to Heaven you will stop learning. Eternity still holds classes!!!!

It can be a very complicated and painful ordeal to confront the Pride of knowledge, learning and education. Normally pride essentially affects the identity of an individual or group. However, this type of pride doesn't merely inflate identity. It actually finds its roots in the human conscience. The human conscience is that many-faceted part of the inner person containing many critical aspects of the human including the belief systems and what one considers to be truth, whether it's right or wrong. So when dealing with this form of pride one must first determine what belief systems have been built into the conscience of the person or group. Then once these are discovered, those beliefs must be accessed to determine if they're really Biblical truth or not. This can be a serious matter especially if the emerging opinions of the individual are built on presupposition or philosophies, and not thorough, accurate Bible study. Proverbs 18:13 states that the person who presumptuously speaks about things they haven't studied or listened to is a fool. Pride and the fool are generally one in the same.

Prov 18:13 He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him. KJV

Inevitably such persons defend the lies as truth and believe it is a matter of identity, when in fact, it is a direct result of presumptuous, unfounded belief. A wrong set of beliefs and convictions, considered to be truth, can produce a militant hostility very unbecoming to genuine faith. The Christian constantly has a choice to listen, study, learn and grow, or not. This is a lifetime journey. But when believers are deeply settled in the beliefs that they consider to be truth that aren't actually truth and they aren't open

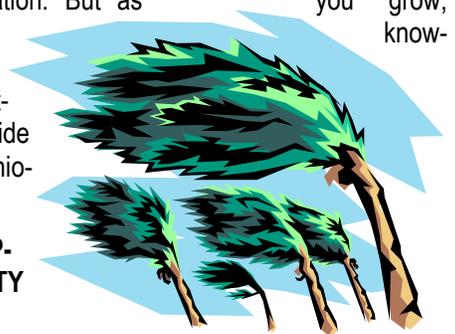
to listening to new and different, but accurate Biblical truths, such as the confrontation of Greek Philosophy on Christianity, then pride will lift its ugly, mean head and strife results. This type of behavior is indicative of foolishness and shame. Sadly those persons defending faulty beliefs, because of pride, are incapable of accurately hearing the voice of God and foolishly perpetrate division, hostility and exclusivism.

Many years ago, while chatting with a good friend and recognized ministry leader, he challenged me about some passages of Scriptures often used to silence women in ministry. I responded to his comments saying I didn't want to lose his friendship, nor did I want to disobey God's call on my life. Then I asked him if he'd ever really studied the background of those verses and the words from the ancient Greek. Chuckling, he looked at me and said, "Well no I haven't." I responded, "Well, then how can we discuss this until that happens." We laughed and dropped it, and have remained friends to this day, although I don't know whether he's ever studied those things or himself. I have learned that once people believe a certain way, even if they could learn a different angle, they seldom choose to change their view, even when it's truth.

The pride of knowledge, imaginations, education and learning is by far one of the most crippling forms of pride that I know of. It's been suggested that the average human being and the Christian, willfully stops learning by their mid-forties. God protect us from such a regression. This most damaging pride affects both young and old leading to eventual greater sins. Thankfulness and praise dies once the pride of knowledge and imaginations desensitizes the human spirit making it un-teachable. Un-teachable, opinionated attitudes are a clear indicator of this type of pride and are disgusting. Guard your heart from this numbing death and take aggressive action with your mind, your imaginations and ability to learn. You never know it all and you'll not possess every revelation. But as you grow, every bit of Biblical knowledge you encounter can be a door to greater understanding if pride doesn't set in and opinionated-ness takes over.

PRIDE OF SUPPOSED SPIRITUALITY OR RELIGIOUSITY

Probably one of the most difficult forms of pride to confront and deal with is the one that embraces an unhealthy appraisal of one's actual ability and anointing. We tend to swing from one extreme to the other when dealing with this. People are either extremely insecure, lacking confidence in who they are in Christ, and what their gifting actually is, or they think more highly of themselves than they should and fail to recognize the limits of the measure of their gifting and spiritual calling.



Romans 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, **not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.**KJV

Do you realistically know what your talents, spiritual gifts and callings are? Though there are at least 10 definitions for grace, but grace in this context is defined as abilities given by God. Each believer has received a certain portion of God-given spiritual gifting matched by callings and purpose. Personality and experience also weigh heavily on how these things are put into action. The development of those apportionments is possible so that in affect we can be all that God has called us to be according to His purpose for us as individuals. But in order for those things to occur, a right and healthy assessment of those gifts must be determined. Persons struggling with carnal ambition, human expectation and self-will won't see these gifts demonstrated and will be frustrated with who they are or what they can't seem to become.

Spiritual pride is an expression of self-deception.

People who don't rightly and humbly discern their actual gifting and then as a result attempt to be more than what they're gifted to be, readily fall into a trap unknowingly becoming vehicles of deception for others. Over the past number of years, perhaps because I've gotten older, or very possibly because it's becoming a real problem, I'm increasingly aware of an unusual and obvious spiritual pride in persons who are identified in the Bible as NOVICES. More and more frequently I'm encountering a disturbing increase amongst believers, young and old alike, yet who've not had a thorough balance of Biblical training, and who are rude, confrontive and disrespectful to seasoned ministers. Their manner is often argumentative, being arrogantly disagreeable about minor issues and doctrines that they're untaught in, but opinionated about. I wonder if this trend is on the rise because of how freely people voice their opinions through blogging and other social networking media without recognizing the age old of practices of self-restraint and teachable spirit. Spiritual pride revels in that type of climate. Honor disintegrates where pride begins.

A novice is basically a young believer, untaught in basic doctrines, although they think they've been taught and mature. The Greek word "neophyte", translated as novice describes a young convert, or someone newly planted, like a young sapling palm tree, still bendable and fragile. Naturally speaking, saplings whip about in the wind and can cause a lot of pain to near bystanders. The same principle applies to spiritual novices. Novices tend to be very opinionated, condescending to older more mature believers and leaders, very easily provoked over what they naively believe to be truth and doctrine (even though they've never been educated in full). Their impetuous, impatient nature makes them

Religious pride begins with the idea that human beings are their own saviors & don't need Jesus!

question and challenge people they believe to be less knowledgeable than themselves, and they will attempt to advise everyone they come into contact. They're often presumptuous in speaking in the Lord's name and will "prophe-lie" without any conscience or consideration for what they say, frequently overpowering younger and weaker personalities in order to make themselves to be heard. Because of this they cause strife, stir up suspicion and damage the genuine works of God. They're untaught, unqualified and yet believe they know what you need to do, say and be, whilst themselves ignorant of the bigger picture and complete knowledge.

1Ti 3:6 Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.

1Ti 6:4 He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings,

Looking at another possible angle of spiritual pride, a prime Biblical example was demonstrated by the various categories of religious leadership as lived out by the Pharisees and Sadducees. Luke 18 reveals the arrogant prayer of the Pharisee as

he professed himself to be spiritually superior to the other people he judged as less righteous. Blind to such self-righteousness, religiosity becomes a back door to spiritual arrogance.

Luke 18:11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.KJV

Romans 11:20 Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear.KJV

Romans 11:25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.KJV

Spiritual pride is dangerous on many levels. Paul the apostle warned the Gentile church of it, and yet, even so it still affects a great majority of the western church having been influenced by a doctrine known as "Replacement Theology" a teaching that fosters a hatred of Israel and the Jews, believing that the Gentile Church has replaced the Natural seed of Abraham.

Galatians 6:3 For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself.KJV

Philippians 2:3 Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves

Romans 12:16 Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.KJV

It's no wonder then that religious pride is one of the most powerful foes of evangelism, the ministry of salvation and receiving the New Birth. It prevents the gospel, even repelling it, because those who have religious pride believe that their "good works" and "attempts at good living" are sufficient for their acceptance by God. They may be Christian in name and actions but not conversion; because they arrogantly believe they don't need to be transformed by God. This attitude alone smacks of a pride

originating from the idea that human beings can be their own saviors and don't need Jesus, the work of the cross, the shed blood for the remission of sin and the Bible as absolute truth. It's becoming increasingly the frame of mind by all who live in our society inside and outside of all expressions of Christianity.

Having considered some of the most significant types of pride identified in Scripture we need to examine our hearts and ask God, "What type of pride is in my life?" Do you want to really repent of it? Do you want God to expose the various roots associated with it? Will you run away from facing things that challenge your comfort zones or will you seek to learn what needs to change? These questions must be answered if change can come.

The next article in this series will address a serious problem faced by many when dealing with pride. All too often, because of numerous factors, people are accused of being proud when in fact pride is not the problem. Have you been accused of being proud and yet can't seem to get victory over it? If so, this next article will be of tremendous help to you.

CURRENT MINISTRY PROJECTS

NEW BOOKS

Dr Winslow is presently working on several literary projects. The completion of the final edits of the Revival Study Bible will be tentatively completed by the end of February 2010. The official launch date will be held initially in Singapore during the first week of September of 2010. Four other literary projects are the primary focus of Dr. Winslow's efforts. Progress has been made on the following books. "Understanding the Foundations of Nations and Generations" "The Fear of the Lord" "The Revivalist" and "The Revival Study Bible Study Guide". Each of these books has required incredible amounts of research, so much so, that Dr. Winslow has not been traveling for speaking engagements. This means that she has not been able to generate the income from speaking engagements that support the financial needs of the ministry. If you pray for her as she completes these books, please also pray for the finances to be released to enable her to finish that work. These books need to be released as soon as possible.

REBUILDING THE WEBSITE

With the help of several gifted and kind, computer-savvy individuals www.tamarawinslow.com will soon have a new format and face. This updated and modernized website will be much more user friendly. Be watching for these changes and check the website out.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

February –April -Writing new books, new curriculum & music

April 15th-19th Biblical Perspectives on Healing Seminar- Institute Cornelius House Ministry House, Colorado Springs, Colorado- Application & Acceptance letter mandatory

May 3rd-10th - Womens' International Ministries Network Conference "Seasons of Destiny", Resurrection Life Church, Eden Prairie, MN. Dr. Sharon Predovich.

May 31st Michael & Tamara Winslow's 30th Wedding Anniversary

June- Singapore- Wisdom in the Workplace Level 3 and other seminars

July 15th- July 31st -- Institute Level One course- Application & Acceptance letter mandatory

September 1st-18th Singapore Revival Study Bible Launch and other possible seminars and launch meetings.

BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVES ON HEALING SEMINAR

April 15th-19th, 2010

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INSTITUTE FOR BIBLICAL TRUTH LEVEL ONE COURSE

July 15th- July 31st, 2010



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