

Beware of Pridefulness

Introduction

Scripture Reading:

1. The Proverb writer penned these important and valuable words.

Proverbs 16:18 Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. The destructive nature of pride is on display every single day.
 - A. It does not take long to find examples of pride all around us. Let's constantly remind ourselves that we are not immune to pride's temptation.
 - 1) If we give in to it, we bring upon ourselves trial and trouble, sin and death.

Pride Destroys Humility

1. Pride is the opponent of humility as it estimates and elevates itself above others.
 - A. The proud person is haughty and conceited; he is more concerned with himself instead of humbly serving others.

Romans 12:16 Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.

2. By destroying humility, pride destroys the servant heart that treats others gently.

Pride Destroys Remorse for Sin

1. **A contrite heart is crushed by its sin, but the proud heart is obstinate and unmoved by the mercy of God whose grace saves through faith.**

A. God said,

Isaiah 57:15 For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, **With him who has a contrite and humble spirit**, To revive the spirit of the humble, And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

2. **God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble (James 4:6)**

A. Why? Because the proud of heart resist Him (No one will be saved against their own will), refusing to yield to Him in obedient faith.

Pride Destroys Generosity

1. **Pride, by definition, is selfish in its arrogance and impatient toward others.**
2. **Generosity, when rightly practiced, comes from a humble, thankful heart.**

1 Timothy 6:17 Command those who are rich in this present age **not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches** but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy.

Pride Hardens the Heart Against God

- 1. The hardening of Pharaoh's heart, despite the inescapable testimony of God's power and supremacy, is traceable to pride.**
- 2. By exalting himself against God he brought upon himself and his land a devastating judgment.**

Exodus 9:18 Behold, tomorrow about this time I will cause very heavy hail to rain down, such as has not been in Egypt since its founding until now.

- 3. Dear friend, and brother and sister in Christ, do not harden your heart against God and the testimony of His truth.**

A. One CANNOT overthrow God!

Pride Destroys the Soul

- 1. Pride is an abomination to God!**

Proverbs 6:17-19 **A proud look**, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood, A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that are swift in running to evil, A false witness who speaks lies, And one who sows discord among brethren.

- 2. Those who elevate themselves will be humbled by God!**

Luke 18:14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; **for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled**, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

- 3. On judgment day, only the humble will enter into eternal glory!**

Conclusion

1. Let us all be WISE, by being HUMBLE:

Proverbs 11:2 When **pride** comes, then comes **shame**; But with the **humble** is **wisdom**.

Place

Date

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Richard Thetford, July 2025 (Based on an article outline by Joe Price)