

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"