

16 Days on
PRIDE



...*pride goes before destruction...* Proverbs 16:18

Day 1: Using a thesaurus or dictionary, do a word study of the word *pride*. List synonyms / antonyms / definitions.

According to your word study above, are there õrightö and õwrongö forms of pride? If yes, how would you categorize them?

Day 2: Read 1 John 2:15-17 How is wrongful pride defined in this passage?

Why is wrongful pride so harmful?

Day 3: What adverse actions can follow wrongful pride, as shown in these verses:

- Proverbs 11:2
- Proverbs 13:10
- Proverbs 29:23
- Isaiah 25:11-12

Day 4: Study the scripture passages below. What are things a believer *can* take pride in?

- 2 Corinthians 8:22-24
- Galatians 6:4
- Psalm 44:8; 2 Corinthians 10:17-18
- Jeremiah 9:23-24

Day 5: In what areas should we *not* be boastful, as shown in these verses:

- 1 Timothy 6:17-19
- Ephesians 2:8-9
- Proverbs 27:1
- Galatians 6:14

Day 6: Summarize Daniel 4:28-37. How did the Nebuchadnezzar's pride ultimately bring him down?

Did Nebuchadnezzar learn anything from his humiliation?

Day 7: Read Amos 8:7. Israel (Jacob) took pride in the fact that the Lord was her God. Notice the tone in the following verses. Which is positive and which is negative? What do you think caused such a major change?

- Psalm 47:1-4
- Amos 6:8

Day 8: Study these verses. What benefits can transpire when pride takes a fall?

- Matthew 23:11-12; James 1:9-10
- Psalm 119:78, 85-86
- 1 Samuel 2:6-8

Day 9: Read 2 Corinthians 12:20-21. Can pride be found among church members? Are any of the listed actions and traits present in your personal life?

Day 10: Describe the pride of Nabal in 1 Samuel 25:2-42 and what it cost him. (Compare Proverbs 17:12.)

Day 11: Paul boasts about his sufferings in 2 Corinthians 11:16-29. How does he view this type of pride? Is he wrong to boast like this?

Day 12: Read 2 Corinthians 11:30 and 12:1-10. What did God allow in Paul's life to keep him humble? Why would being weak make someone strong?

Day 13: Compare Hannah's prayer in 1 Samuel 2:1-3 with David's in Psalm 17:6-10. How can you guard your mind and will against wrongful pride?

Day 14: What kind of pride did Paul warn the Gentiles about in Romans 11:17-21?

Day 15: Read Proverbs 21:24 to discover the name of a wrongfully prideful person. What do the following scriptures teach you about relating to such an individual?

- Psalm 1:1

- Proverbs 9:7-8, 12

- Proverbs 23:9

Day 16: Why is pride included in the list found in Mark 7:14-22? How can you best prepare yourself to stay clear of these "unclean" activities and thought patterns?

More Thoughts On...
Pride

“A man wrapped up in himself makes a very small package.”
-Unknown

“In the midst of a world of light and love, of song and feast and dance, Lucifer could find nothing to think of more interesting than his own prestige.”
-C.S. Lewis

“Proud people keep others at arm's length. Broken people are willing to take the risks of getting close to others and loving intimately.”
- Nancy Leigh DeMoss

“Knowing God without knowing our own wretchedness makes for pride. Knowing our own wretchedness without knowing God makes for despair. Knowing Jesus Christ strikes the balance because He shows us both God and our own wretchedness.”
- Blaise Pascal

“There is nothing into which the heart of man so easily falls as pride, and yet there is no more vice which is more frequently, more emphatically, and more eloquently condemned in Scripture. Pride is a thing which should be unnatural to us, for we have nothing to be proud of. In almost every other sin, we gather us ashes when the fire is gone. But here, what is left? The covetous man has his shining gold, but what does the proud man have? He has less than he would have had without pride, and is no gainer whatever. Pride wins no crown.”
- Charles Spurgeon

“One of our troubles is we are not willing to humble ourselves. We are not willing to give up our opinions as to how things should be done.”
- Mordecai Ham

“It is very easy to overestimate the importance of our own achievements in comparison with what we owe others.”
-Dietrich Bonhoeffer

“Pride springs from desire. Man aspires to obtain a place for himself that he may feel honoured before men. He loves to hear praising voices and considers them just and true. He also attempts to elevate himself in his work, whether in preaching or in writing, for his secret self motive goads him on. In a word, this one has not yet died to his desire of vainglory. He is still seeking what he desires and what can inflate him.”

-Watchman Nee

Further Reading On...
Pride

From Pride to Humility: A Biblical Perspective by Stuart Scott

Accidental Pharisees: Avoiding Pride, Exclusivity, and other Dangers of Overzealous Faith
by Larry Osborne

Justification by Grace through Faith: Finding Freedom from Legalism, Lawlessness, Pride and Despair by Brian Vickers

Help Me I'm Falling: The Subtle Deception of Pride by Charles R. Sund

Pride: The Seven Deadly Sins by Micheal Eric Dyson