
PROVERBS 16:5&18-19,

SUMMARY: Pride comes before a fall, it's a well-used saying even today, which finds its root in Proverbs 16:18. According to C.S Lewis, it is the complete anti-God state of mind and it's a trait that we hate in others but are often blind to in ourselves.

So, what is it? Well at its core, it's finding a deep satisfaction or pleasure in one's own achievements. It's good to take pride in our work and our family. Surely that pride is a good thing. Well, it can be but only when we realise that we haven't really done all that much ourselves.

What the Bible makes clear over and over again is that we are totally and utterly dependent on God for all things. He is sovereign and he is in control. What that means, is that we can't claim the successes of our life on our own accord. Anything we achieve or are a part of is because he has allowed it and ordained it.

Yet we all think that we deserve a constant stream of recognition. We each want to be lifted up and recognised as important, if not vital to this creation.

Pride at its core is an attempt, even subconsciously, to dethrone God in our lives. Even if it is just for a moment or in some small way. It's what both the fall of Satan and of Man were both all about. Each wanted to be 'like' God, each wanted to claim their own throne.

Pride is an insidious vice; it eats away at our hearts and destroys our relationships. It's what makes us selfish and often leads to other more obvious sins. Pride led to the fall and it's a fall we have all made ourselves too.

PRIDE IN THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

1. Why is pride wrong?
 2. What about pride makes it, according to C.S. Lewis the anti-God state of mind?
 3. In what way is pride delusional as a Christian? What about it denies a basic understanding of God?
 4. What do Proverbs 14:3 & 13:10 show about the problems pride creates.
 5. How do the four types of people in Proverbs 30:11-14 all find their root in the issue of pride?
 6. Why is pride so easy to see in others but so hard to see in ourselves?
 7. How does pride lead to sin? See Proverbs 21:4
 8. What does Proverbs say about the consequences of pride? (See Proverbs 16:5&18)
 9. How is the fear of the Lord the beginning of the solution to our pride? (See Proverbs 15:33)
 10. How is the nature of the trinity in opposition to our pride?
 11. How did Jesus' life on earth express incredible humility? (Read Philippians 2:5-8)
 12. Where do you need to confront pride in your life?
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30:11-14

