

Part 2

E PLURIBUS UNUM OVERCOMING PRIDE

Overview: In Gen 11:6, God said that, when the people are in unity, they can do anything. In Matt 18:19, Jesus states that, when two or three are in agreement, it shall be done for them. But pride destroys agreement by introducing strife.

A. Pride is the first and worst sin

1. Pride is the first sin committed by Satan, Adam, you and me.
2. The Pride of Life is the source of all evil in you. It is the first step to all sins.
3. Pride is selfish, self-centered and is the spiritual opposite of Agape love.
Mat 22:37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

B. The Process of Pride

1. Pride initiates strife.
Pro 13:10 **Only by pride cometh contention.**
Pro 18:6 A fool's lips enter into contention.
Pro 28:25 He that is of a proud heart stirreth up strife.
2. The progression of Pride.
Pride → Contention (strife) → Every evil work (Jam 3:16).
Pride → Impatience → Fear (H.S. Sem 2).
Pride of Life → Lust of the eyes → Lust of the flesh (1 John 2:16).
3. The fruits of Pride.
Oba 1:3 Pride deceives your heart.
Pro 29:23 A man's pride shall bring him low:
Pro 16:18 Pride [goeth] before destruction, an haughty spirit before a fall.
1Pe 5:5 ... Be clothed with humility for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.
Jam 4:6 ... God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.
Isa 28:1, 3 Crown of Pride.

C. How to Identify Pride

1. Mat 20:26 But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister;
Mat 20:27 And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant:
2. Phi 2:3 [Let] nothing [be done] through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.
Note: A good test on esteeming others better than yourself is, "Are you a giver?" What have you given so far today: money, resources, time, or love?
3. Eph 5:2 And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour.

D. Overcoming Pride

1. Pro 8:13 The fear of the LORD [is] to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy (displaying offensive superior attitude), and the evil way, and the froward (habitual disobedient) mouth, do I hate.
2. Die to self.
Gal 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.
3. Be led by the Spirit.
 - a. Your choices: Be Spirit-led or be led by the Pride of Life.
Rom 8:13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.
Rom 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.
 - b. Interval Living - A Practical Plan for being led by the Holy Spirit.
 - (1) The purpose of this suggested plan is to help you have a lifestyle wherein everything that you are doing is under the direction of the Holy Spirit (HS). You want to live a life so that everything is WWJD.
 - (2) Divide your day into intervals (periods) of time. The intervals may all be of the same length (e.g., 6 periods of 4 hours) or the time for each interval may be determined by the activities to be done in that interval.
 - (3) At the beginning of each interval, ask the Holy Spirit what you should be doing during this time period.
 - (4) During an interval, if the need or opportunity arises to do something that is not on the Holy Spirit defined list, then it will stick out and prompt you to ask the Holy Spirit if He wants you to do that.
 - (5) At the end of an interval, confer with the Holy Spirit regarding the activities for the next interval.
 - c. Benefits of Interval Living.
 - (1) Rom 8:14 It helps you to mature from wherever you are through strong meat into the fulness of your salvation (Rev 21:7).
 - (2) It is a constant reminder to be checking with the Holy Spirit.
Gal 5:15 But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another.
Gal 5:16 [This] I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.
 - (3) 1 John 1:9 Confessing known sins and dealing with the unknown sins before speaking to the Holy Spirit removes the hindrances and blockages of sins in your life, loosing God's Hands to help you.
 - (4) Heb 11:6 It keeps you walking in faith. Without faith, it is impossible to please God.
 - (5) Mark 11:23 Your faith allows God to partner with you.
 - (6) Eph 2:8 Your faith looses God's Grace into your life.