

131 Deadly Sin

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PRIDE - DEADLY SIN

Proverbs 16:18

INTRODUCTION:

Pope Gregory - 6th Century - Divided all sins under 7 Heads
Every sin a man commits can be classified by " " "
Pride - Anger - Envy - Greed - Gluttony - Sloth - Lust

We come now to the very first of the seven deadly sins, namely pride.

And we read that "pride goeth before a fall."

Live Country - Seaboard - girl walk st - turn (Noe up, not speak) - not in
Hed - no better than you - Just little more face on her dress!

It seems that poor ole Bert Lance is in a bad way. I read a story about a man attack by two highway men - he put up a terrific fight. And finally he was over-come and searched. All they found on him was a dime. The bandits were amazed. Say, exclaimed one, you don't mean to tell us that you put up a battle like that for a dime. Why, we almost had to kill you.

Man put his name in by Derby - do expect her to win? No Not Concerned about winning but look what company he will be in.

Well, answered the victim, the truth of the matter is - I didn't want my financial condition exposed. There is a great deal of pride that causes people, situations, even in (financial) things.

Like getting your foot hung up in a wad of bubble gum. Have you ever looked down and discovered the situation. How one mouth could ever chew more than both of your feet could step on, will forever be a mystery. That gooey stuff - like spider webs - clings to everything. And gets on your clothes. And if it is hot weather, it is really hopeless. Everything it touches - it turns into a sad mess.

It is awful stuff - but you can't ignore it. It is kind of like pride.

It is kind of messy.

Dr. William Culbertson says there are three kinds of pride. Pride of the face, pride of grace, and the pride of race.

Typical *Religious* *Social Society*

If you give room for human honors and praise - they will produce pride. As another said, the flower of humility grows only in the grave of pride.

I was amused once at an advertisement of a typewriter. It was announced For Sale. There was special information. It said this - the only defect it has, is that the capitol "I" is worn out.

And that leads us to say, there never was a man so empty as a man who is full of himself.

The writer of Proverbs says that it is fatal.

There is a legend that goes about the story of a frog. He was in a pond with some wild geese - and the geese were going to migrate. They were going to go from the cold North to the sunny South. And the frog heard the geese talking about the trip. Why, he thought that would be something. He purposed that he travel with them. Why, they said - you can only croak and swim. But the frog said - I have brains. And if you will carry out my directions, you'll be surprised at the plan. And the frog began to direct. He said, go over and get that strong reed in the swamp. Pull it up, and they brought it to him.

Now he said, two of you - one will hold this reed, one end in his mouth
- and the other in the other. And I will hold on to this reed in the middle,
and you'll be able to carry me without difficulty. And so they started out.
But as they flew over the villages - the people were attracted to that strange
sight of the caravan. And with open mouths and eyes, they began to express
their wonder. And their imagination, and admiration - at this strange thing.
Whoever thought of that bright idea, And as they commented on the splendid
idea, this was too much for the frog! Because the frog was in danger of losing
the credit for the whole scheme. And so without stopping to think - he shouted,
I did it. I thought of it. But of course, the moment he opened his mouth - he
lost his hold, and down he dropped, among the villagers to his death. So the
writer of Proverbs is very adequate and picturesque in that it tells us what is
going to take place.

We find pride in all places, in all sorts of forms.

One day, there was a woman who said to her husband, the check - or rather
the check at the bank had bounced, and that his bank account had been over-
drawn. But the wife pleaded for a check. She said, I want one anyway. And I
want you to make it for (\$500.) ^{'er} I want to pull it out of my handbag with my
handkerchief this afternoon. *Woman's Check -'*

So pride is always like chasing a rainbow. You remember that popular
song - I'm always running from shadows. Horrible shadows that threaten me.
Chasing rainbows, and fleeing shadows. Many people never get around to seeing
much else. Becoming what they ought to become. Because they are tricked and

fooled by the shadow of self.

Pride is really the first fruits of your rebellion against God - and your refusal to accept a normal relationship with his son, Jesus Christ. The Beatitudes, which were given by Jesus try to correct these wretched attitudes that we have. Wretched are the poor and proud in spirit. For they shall never enter the kingdom of Heaven. Wretched are those that are opinionated. With their minds closed to truth. Those that are double-minded. Those who hunger after their own selfish goals. No one ever enters the kingdom of Heaven this way.

Pride is the thing that prevents.

There are several things that come to mind about this subject. But one thing there is - a vanishing sense of sin. Now people will say, tell me what you mean by a sense of sin. What is it. The only word for it - that people have to do, is find a sense of sin. Have you ever noticed that people from many points of view today, are so self-centered, that they never see the kink in their own lives. Pride which curses and destroys so many people - and adds to the destruction of our world, because it prevents us from admitting our own sense of emptiness, of failure towards someone or something outside of ourselves. Pride prevents us from recognizing that the hounds of Hell are on our trail. Pride causes us to put up a bold front and continue our flight from reality. And to get away from the best. And we leave behind a wrecked self - with ego, and goals that are crushed.

This is why man does not want to face sin. Like Paul, we almost try to avoid this moment of despair over our sin. And we endeavor sometimes to keep the letter of the law. Whether it be The Ten Commandments, or some code in our community. But how evil the sins that we try to avoid. Until Paul came to where he was whipped and beaten in the end. And he had what he knew was a sickness unto death. John 11:4.

We avoid this costly sense of sin - we minimize sin in a way. We try to remove its sting.

But all of the sin of selfishness in one form or another, pride consists essentially in undo self-esteem. Delighting in the thought of one's own superiority, over his fellows.

16:5 - Everyone that is proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord. Though hand joined hand, he shall not be unpunished.

29:23 - A man's pride shall bring him low. And honor shall uphold his humble spirit. Therefore, we have lost the sense of sin. And it is this undo self-esteem out of all proportion - which we think we are actually worth. And we have revolted - and God hates this. And it makes God shutter. As God said in Psalm 101:5 - Him that hath a high look and a proud heart, will not I suffer. God cannot stand to endure pride. He hates pride.

There are three or four things that we ought to say this evening about

this subject. First of all, the forms of pride. Second, the frustrations. And third, the fruition of pride.

I. FORMS

There are several forms of pride. Pride of birth. "Is not this the carpenter's son. Pride of wealth. "The son of man hath not where to lay his head." The pride of personal appearance. "He hath no form, nor commonness. Pride of reputation, "made himself of no reputation. Pride of superiority - "I am as one that serveth. Pride of ability. "I can, of mine own self do nothing. Pride of will - "I seek not my own will. Pride of resentment - "Father, forgive them.

Jesus might have had -

But the life and death of Jesus both are a strong and standing rebuke to every strong form of pride. And believe me, pride comes in various forms.

First it comes in a haughty heart. Of all places, for it to take place, we find that some of it is in the heart. Some take pride in their looks. Others in their businesses. Others in their social life. Pride may be many many things. This pride of the spirit was a sin that caused Lucifer, the Devil, to fall. This is where sin actually began.

Isa. 14:12-15) How art thou fallen from Heaven, oh Lucifer, son of the morning. How art thou cut down to the ground. Which did weaken the nation.

For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into Heaven. I will exhalt my throne above the stars of God. I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation on the side of the north, and I will ascend above the heights of the clouds. I will be like the most high.

God -

Yet, thou shalt be brought down to Hell - to the sides of the pit. In this passage, we find Lucifer saying I will Five times, I will be above God. It was pride in his heart. And that was the first sin that was ever committed in this universe. When we, like Lucifer, begin to feel that we are self-contained, and self-sufficient, we are really on dangerous ground.

Spiritual pride, because it trusts in its own virtue - rather than the grace of God. And it is going to be judged. It induces us to have contempt for others. And to be contemptable to those about us.

2- Religion

Dr. Grey - His Halo was on To Fight

It is like the old Pharisee - God, I thank Thee I am not like other men. It is full of self-deceit. A man says that he is good in his own right. He struts about like a peacock. And this is tragic. God has sounded a stern warning in James 4:6 - God resisteth the proud. But giveth grace unto the humble. The first form of pride is found in a haughty heart.

second, it is found in the religion of the Pharisee. It comes in another form - in a religious form. Did you know there are people who think they have a private corner on the Gospel. They have become so conceited, so proud, and so much like a Pharisee. That they actually glory in their self-righteousness. And they think they are better than other people.

In other words, have you ever heard some of this fundamentalist type of doctrine. We don't do this. We don't do that. We keep the letter of the law. But they have long ago forgotten the (spirit) of the law. And they are guilty of spiritual pride.

*Hide the truth from people -
Thought control -
Party line follow - more @'s than Ana!*

Climate of love & share what we know with each other!

There are others who think themselves to be pure above all others - and that all others are impure. They have forgotten there is no such thing as a completely pure church, */ on earth -*

Have you ever heard those people preach. Why this is a Bible believing church. And we've got everything in this that is perfect. Now Jesus taught us this - that the chaff and the wheat would grow together and that we will not be able to distinguish them until the end of time. Yet, we have many Pharisees today, going around trying to throw all the chaff out of the wheat during which God said could never be done. Until Christ returns to do it. We have many people going around today pulling out specks, out of other people's eyes. They are going to straighten out this institution, and they are going to straighten out this movement, and they have beams in their own eyes that they cannot take care of.

Texts Prov. 16:18 Pride goeth before destruction & a haughty spirit before a fall

They have a haughty, superior chip on their shoulder, attitude. And they spend their time criticizing and gossiping about others.

Now the Scripture says this is the worst kind of pride. Not only the haughty heart, but the religious pride that people might develop.

In Luke 18:11 - there is a story of the religious man saying, I thank Thee, that I am not as other men.

In I Cor. 4:18 - it says something about being (puffed) up - and that has to do with pride.

Rev. 3:17 - It says something about a church saying "I am rich. But God says that church is poor."

So you be careful about these people that are proud, boasters, and

forms
Heart - Religion
puffed up, in this way.

3- A (third) form is (intellect.) Pride comes, the Bible says, in I Cor. 8:1-2. Knowledge puffeth up. But love edifies. And if any man think that he knoweth anything, he knoweth nothing. Yet as he ought to know, now this kind of pride may be toward the unlearned - the illiterate. And it forgets our mental capacities that they were given by God. That the knowledge we obtain is largely the labor of others. In this, a reason for intelligent, intellectual arrogance. Paul says, Rom. 12:16, mind not high things - but condescend to men of low estate.

The Plato once entertained some friends in his richly furnished home. One of his friends came in dirty, and getting on the couch, trampled on it and said - I trampled upon the pride of Plato. Plato answered, (but "with great pride, my friend.)

The intellectual pride often becomes the enemy of the Gospel of Christ. Because it gives the possessor self-confidence, rather than God confidence. Prov. 3:5.
Trust in the Lord with all thine heart. And lean not unto thine own understanding.

Now you have a tendency to put God in a test tube. And if he cannot be put in a test tube, then you cannot accept it. They do not like to learn or lean on God. They cannot understand that faith goes beyond learning and knowledge, and even reason. And that it even goes beyond the logical mind.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Real religion increases your intellect. Rom. 12:2 - be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind.

God hates intellectual pride. Prov. 26:12, Seeth thou a man wise in his own conceit. There is more hope of the fool than of him.

1. Doubtful heart - 2. Religion - 3. Intellect -

4. A fourth form, is found in material things. Man in his pride, begins to think that his blessings do not flow from God. Deut. 8:18 - but thou shall remember the Lord, thy God, for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth. Both riches and honor come of thee. I Chron. 29:12. And yet material pride becomes enthroned in a man's heart. And he gets things (out of balance.) And instead of concentrating on his sight of God, his soul begins to shrivel up. Material pride makes a man covetous. The lust for money can become a habit with him just like drink. Trust not in vain riches. The Bible warns I Tim. 6:9 - they that will be rich will fall into temptation and a snare. And into many foolish and hurtful lusts.

All the material things that you have come from God. The ability that you have to get this wealth, comes from God. The time that you are allotted to enjoy these material things come from God. So why is it, that we let human pride take

over these possessions. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above. You have absolutely nothing that you did not receive from God. God gave you the strength to work for it. God gave you the mind to think through it. And God is giving you the freedom and the opportunity. And it all came from God. And yet, man turns around and makes materialism that became a pride because he feels that he is the one that accomplished it.

So finally, as we think about the different forms that pride takes, it takes the place of (playing God.) And that is real folly. That a man becomes a superman and plays God for himself. That is a sin of pride. Thou shalt have no other Gods before me. That is a command of God. That we do this.

Now what we are saying is, the root of all sin, has its source right here in pride. Each of the other sins that we are considering in this series, are very definite children of pride. All of these others come from this root.

II. FRUSTRATIONS

Now I want to give us a brief thought to the frustrations of the proud and of pride. The inability of a man to organize his life so well, around himself. This is the evidence of history - of all peoples and all nations. There have been those who tried because of their pride. Why is it wrong to try to be with God. Why is it that we try to short-cut things and become proud of self. And this is something that is hard to explain. God made us in his own image, you remember. And the fact here that it is frustrating is, there are people who have not one sin to confess. Not one single mistake to acknowledge. They have not been the victim

of one betrayal or one injustice. They have never been unjust. And so they paint a portrait of their lives in this way.

Now Paul talked about this frustration when he said, I am the foremost of sinners. I Tim. 1:15. He was very frank. And he was very honest. But we in our pride, go forth, to continue in our frustrations.

I guess this is because pride in an invisible enemy. He is something like placing your finger on a sore spot. Trying to single out as the seven deadly sins - as they were called. They were the favorite theme back in the mid-evil theology. In the days of Dante, who wrote a great deal about his pilgrim and these deadly sins - he described him climbing a mountain. Here is a garden of Paradise, in view. When Satan fell from Heaven, he struck the Southern side of the earth. The land whereon he fell, led to other places. And he tore his way to Hell, Through the center of the earth. And so, here was fall of Satan, and a pathway back to Paradise lost.

And Dante has a way of arranging this - the seven deadly sins, in terraces on the mountainside. He fixes them up there. And then he gives the entire process that will give some hope. But the hope in Hell - the inscription is . . . all hope abandon ye who enter here. And so people are prisoners. This sin that he talked about is a fundamental one.

Did you know that pride is the thing that caused our first parents to error. Through pride, the temptation was, ye shall be as Gods. And they fell for it.

It was the same sin that caused the angels to fall.

The Devil felt it would be better to reign in Hell than to serve in Heaven as Milton makes Satan say. Every sin lies in pride. For the soul of pride is the setting up of self against all others - even against God.

It is the thing that makes us turn away from God, and that is why it is so frustrating, to individuals.

Pride is the thing that causes people to feel that merit is the thing that they ought to get recognition on. They demand merit. And they think they have some imaginary powers.

In Germany you remember Hitler in those early stages of his reign, he was building a super race. And pride was his big weapon.

Napoleon had the same thing when he said, "there shall be no God." And God said, "there shall be no Napoleon." And God always has the last word.

The frustration of it is that this sin appears in every day life. Few of us have gone very far without meeting this sin. It really clogs up the wheels.

Paul said, I know both have to be abased, and I know how to abound.

This was the thing that Daniel had to face up too, in his day. When the king said, I want my fellow men to fall down and to worship me. There were those who were curious, and who were powerless, and yet it was pride that lifted up his head at that time. And that is what Proverbs says - pride goeth before destruction.

Think about the frustration of this thing - in the parable of the Pharisee and the Publican. This sin is prominent - and Jesus everywhere else talks about it, because the Pharisee proclaimed a perfection that he did not possess. He trusted not in another, but in himself. He thanked God that he was not as other men. But the other men, may have thanked God for that also. And this is where religious pride really closed the door. Really against the possibility of salvation.

There are men who are confident about their health, and there are those who are confident about their wisdom. They cannot be taught. There are those who are confident about their spiritual perfection. And they cannot be redeemed.

No wonder Dante put this as one of the first on the terrace. That needed to be cleansed. There was pride.

The frustration of it. Now when Moses came down from the mountains, he wished not that his face was shown. God had spoken to him on that mountain. He

was rich. He did not show in a puffed up way that he was proud of it.

The frustration of this is, that it tends to ingratitude. It causes a man not to be thankful. And it keeps him ignorant because he refuses instruction. And it makes him useless because he is a cloud without water.

The frustration of this thing is that people will not hear the voice of God. Jer. 13:15-16. Many are kept from Christ because they are afraid to come out on the side of Christ. They are ashamed of Christ. There are others who will not hear the call of God because of social standards. They have vain thoughts about themselves. Another is that they conceal their sins. And the healing of the heart is only possible when it humbly goes to God. And self-righteousness defeats all hope of satisfaction.

A woodpecker was hammering away on an old Hickory tree in the woods. He was making the bark fly when a bolt of lightning out of the sky shattered that old tree into splinters. The woodpecker died thinking it had done it!

The frustration of this thing - did you know there are people who try to out dress each other. They try to out fashion each other. And these deadly sins are something that really is frustrating.

Fruit - Results

III. FRUITION

Well, the writer of Proverbs says, the fruit of this thing is when it is brought to completion it is going to be death and destruction. But how are we going to turn this around, that the fruit of the spirit - the true goodness

*Car Driver - 1st Day - broken Tapped shoulder
hit curb Home - your fault - Driving a horse
13 Day car - for last 20 yrs
Pleasant Story - man trying make a corpse stand
up
him - disgust "I'd guess there is something
sucking inside"
Proof of pride no life*

is going to shine through. How are we going to discover here that pride keeps us from our true nature. Which influences us and makes our future difficult and bleak. Paul, who says, who will deliver me from this death - thanks be to God the spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set me free, from the law of sin and death. It is only this new relationship between your soul and God.

Goodness like humility must come to us through righteousness. Too many Christians are destitute of this - and their lives are just a hollow shell. They are guilty of these sins. Power loving. And thing loving. And what they do is to be seen of me, or at least - to be seen of themselves. And this is a ruinness way of life.

True goodness and fruition comes through Christ-likeness and humility. This is where a man must begin - basically, right here. You must first, of all, let pride be whipped. In Christ-like humility. Gladly surrender to him. You will know the truth and the truth will set you free. John 8:32.

No man can rid himself of his pride! If knowing the truth makes us free, why can't we set our minds at ease and to be free. The deceitfulness of temptation. And of this sin. Why can't we set our minds on finding the truth and on being free. Only in the spirit are we set free. The ability to see God's sky is one thing - and we want it above all else. Plutarch has a story of a man who tried to make a corpse stand up. He tried every way he knew, but no matter what he would do - the limp body would fall. Finally, he gave up in disgust saying - "I guess there is something lacking on the inside."

Hand Writing etc --

No wonder men cannot get salvation! Pride makes yourself God!
And pride blocks salvation. And pride depends upon your own way. And
pride becomes an enemy of God.

Who can save us from the lost and the damnation of pride! By grace,
you have been saved through faith - and this is not of your own doing, it is
the gift of God.

Eph. 2:8 - No man can make himself humble, good, or loving. But when
his relationship through the grace of God, he receives this loving peace.
This is one of the most beautiful illustrations, of how we conquer this sin.
The insight is genuine.

1 - And if we are going to get deliverance from this one of the deadly
sins, there must first be the act of repenting of my pride!

2 - I must have a willingness to see myself as I really am! As I think I
am. Not as I wish I were. This is the hardest thing to call upon people
to do - because it means the death of the old man. It is not easy to die -
but we must do this. And that is the first thing - we must come to repentance
with our pride. And we must lower ourselves down to this point.

3 - In London one afternoon, Mr. Green took his daughter Amy, for a trip on
the river. And as they were traveling around they came to Westminster Bridge.
It was very high tide, and it was impossible for the little boat to go under

London Mr Green took Daughter Amy Trip on River - Westminster Bridge
 very High Tide - impossible for little Boat go under arch -
 arch - but the boatman pulled on an oar, and he kind of lowered the little sail
 on the top of the boat, and they passed under. There Amy, said the father,
 what would have happened if we hadn't lowered the sail? Amy looked at that
 stone, iron, and brick work and said, why we should have been smashed! That is
 how pride goes before a fall, said Mr. Green. People think so much of themselves,
 that they won't stoop and they get smashed. And it is when they are at high
 tide, when they are successful, when they feel too proud, that they are too proud
 to lower their sails - that they are smashed.

Man doesn't - other sins - won't humble self - Admit needs God -
 Pride keeps man Bob High - not lower for any thing - cont. to clash - frustration

3 - The second thing, that you must do beyond repentance - is choose the will
 of God. God's vision of my present, my future, possibilities - I must accept
 myself. And I must say that I am going to choose God's will now, for my life.

That is a whole lot of difference in choosing your own will. Because that will
 get you tangled up with pride. And this was the difference between Peter and
 Judas. Judas was not really a bad man all the time - but he was willing to sell
 his master for 30 pieces of silver. And he was a little greedy. What will it
 hurt to take a few pieces of silver some time. But here is Peter who made his
 confession. And here is Judas who hanged himself - what a difference.

Here then
 go rather
 home Jesus

OBIDIAH 3 Esau founder of EDOM Kingdom - Dwell in Petra
 Esau says "I will sell myself" Pride - that cliff city - heart deceived, who shall bring me down
 Jesus "Deny thyself" - Edom crown of Pride, The drunkards of Ephraim whose
 Beauty is a fading flower Isa 28:3 Dwell High like
 To become spirit-filled by the will of God is to follow the way you ought
 I will bring the woman with the lord!

to go.
 your accursed Pride, you will never enter heaven at all! - we must get rid of Pride -
 What can we do about it? Confess it + Young Puler came to Jesus - saying Sal,
 (Pride) Refused to humble self - Went Away Jealous!

Third, and finally, stay in fellowship with God. So you done me from all this -
 What choice will you make? Lady Minister visited on Deathbed - Ask a Q,
 "want to know if there are 2 places in heaven, because I could not bear that Betty
 in The Kitchen should be in heaven along with me, she is so unrefined!"
 Min - Oh don't trouble about that Madam! There is no fear of that until you get rid of

Who knows. You may even help someone get "unboxed"...or get "unboxed" yourself!

CLOCK OF LIFE

The clock of life is wound but once,
And no man has the power
To tell just when the hands will stop,
At late or early hour.
To lose one's wealth is sad indeed.
To lose one's health is more.
To lose one's soul is such a loss
That no man can restore.

Thirty-nine people died while you read this short poem.
Every hour 5,417 go to meet their Maker. What are
YOU doing to help reach them with the gospel e're
they are cast into hell?

The Grapevine