

What Are You Worth?

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Daniel 4:37 Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase.

Matthew 23:12 And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.

Galatians 6:3 For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself.

Romans 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

Romans 12:16 Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.

1 Corinthians 8:2 And if any man think that he knoweth any thing, he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know.

James 4:6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

Proverbs 13:10 Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom.

- I. Pride and humility describe the state of the soul.
 - A. We cannot be right with God while we are proud.
 - B. Humility is the result of being right with God with an honest heart.
 - C. One of the two comes out of us.

Mark 7:20-23 And he said, That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.

- D. Pride is an evil thing born of high self-esteem – humility is a thing born of an understanding of the true God and a honest estimate of ourselves in his sight.

PRIDE, n.

1. Inordinate self-esteem; an unreasonable conceit of one's own superiority in talents, beauty, wealth, accomplishments, rank or elevation in office, which manifests itself in lofty airs, distance, reserve, and often in contempt of others.

Pride goeth before destruction. Prov.16.

Those that walk in pride he is able to abase. Dan.4.

- E. Pride manifests itself in insolence and rude treatment of others.

HUMIL'ITY, n.

1. Freedom from pride and arrogance; humbleness of mind; a modest estimate of one's own worth. In theology, humility consists in lowliness of mind; a deep sense of one's own unworthiness in the sight of God, self-abasement, penitence for sin, and submission to the divine will.

Before honor is humility. Prov. 15.

- F. So pride exalts self; it indulges self-esteem.
- G. Humility refuses to think highly of oneself.
- H. Pride is the source of all strife and humility is the end of all strife.
- I. Pride is like a disease that makes everyone sick except the one who has it – everyone hates pride.
- J. True humility is admired and has a positive effect on everyone who comes in contact with it.
- K. God hates pride and He resists it – but He gives grace to the humble.

II. It is obvious that the world promotes pride – not humility.

- A. People pretend to be humble, but never pretend to be proud.
- B. The world's philosophy is focused on self-worth and high self-esteem.
- C. Most people do not need much encouragement in this direction, because they already think much more of themselves than they ought to.
- D. But very few will recognize their own pride, but insist that they are humble, even when their pride is as obvious to everyone else as stink on a hog.

III. All strife begins with pride – not humility.

- A. It only takes one person to be proud – not two or more.
- B. We need to be honest and consistent in identifying pride in our own hearts.
- C. It is pride in your heart that makes you feel like everyone looks down on you.
- D. If you are easily offended at things other people say or do not say to you, it is because you have pride in your heart, and no other reason.
- E. It is pride in your heart that makes you pick through and analyze things that people say or do looking for some way that they are somehow aimed at you, or meant to cut you down.
- F. It is pride in the heart when you think yourself to be better than what you think other people think of you.
- G. It is pride in your heart that makes you feel like you are overlooked, or lightly esteemed, or shunned or forgotten by others – even if it is true.

James 3:16 For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.

- H. Envy and strife are products of pride, so when people start being easily offended and are always looking for a word or a look or something to lay to the charge of someone else as a trespass against them, there will be strife and discord.

IV. The truly humble person does not care for these things.

- A. He does not look for them in others..
- B. He does not have a chip on his shoulder waiting for someone to knock it off.
- C. He looks for the good in others and reasons to praise them, or thank them, or encourage them.
- D. He truly does not think of himself as worthy or deserving of anything, so he does not envy others when they are praised, or successful, or exalted, and feel it is his duty to bring them down, or to try to best them somehow.

- E. The truly humble person is willing to let others think less of them than they really are without being hurt by it.
 - F. It is always good for proud people when they find out that they have underestimated someone.
 - G. It is a blow to their pride that they were wrong about someone.
 - H. And if you are truly humble before God, you will not be puffed up with pride when they do find out they have underestimated you.
- V. It is good for us to be afflicted, but it is bad for us to be praised.
- A. Flattery feeds pride – nothing else.

Flattery:

1. To soothe by praise; to gratify self-love by praise or obsequiousness; to please a person by applause or favorable notice, by respectful attention, or by any thing that exalts him in his own estimation, or confirms his good opinion of himself.

[A man that flattereth his neighbor, spreadeth a net for his feet. Prov. 29.](#)

[Proverbs 26:28 A lying tongue hateth those that are afflicted by it; and a flattering mouth worketh ruin.](#)

- B. It is pride in your heart when you desire praise and enjoy flattery.

[Proverbs 2:16 To deliver thee from the strange woman, even from the stranger which flattereth with her words;](#)

[Proverbs 16:18 Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.](#)

- C. It is the pride of your heart when you are offended at not receiving praise and flattery.
- D. There is something in the soul of a truly humble person that revolts at the flattery and praise of others.
- E. Judge your own heart – do you love it and seek after it, or does it make you uneasy and almost ashamed when someone praises or flatters you?
- F. If our heart is truly humble, being overlooked, lightly esteemed, or forgotten will cause us to draw closer to God and find comfort in his favor, without feeling offended at other people or having contempt for them – that is a symptom of pride.
- G. The proud will be humbled and the humble will be exalted in due time.
- H. Those who truly deal with their pride and put it on the altar and leave it there find peace in their hearts no matter what others may do.