

“The Nature of Pride: The Root of Sin”

Introduction: This evening, since I have been given the topic “The Nature of Pride: The Root of Sin” we are going to work at putting off pride by the washing of the water of the Word, and that, that we might _____ to put on humility.

I. The _____ of Pride.

A. Simply put “the boastful pride of life” (cf. 1 John 2:15-17) is that sinful (_____) desire for _____.

1. The Zondervan Pictorial Encyclopedia of the Bible defines pride saying: “Pride is more easily recognized than defined and is more easily detected in others than in self. The concept embraces many synonyms that reflect attitudes as well as acts - such as _____, presumption, conceit, and especially vanity and self-satisfaction. Pride is incessantly _____, and a proud person thus loses any balance that might grow out of a recognition of his true position as over against God or over against the ability and worth of others. Since man’s true nature is understood primarily in his dependance and contingency Godward and finds further fulfillment and enrichment man-ward, it follows that pride is a self-isolating and independent attitude that cuts a man off from his necessary relationships and perverts his true humanity; thus pride is sin. ... All satisfaction from pride is self-satisfaction, and is _____: pride of evil, pride of goodness, pride of birth and position, even pride of _____. ...” The article goes on to say that many church fathers considered “pride [to be] the _____ of sin.”

II. The _____ of Pride.

A. We are _____ beings and thus, being created we have a _____. (Cf. Rev 4:11)

1. Pride _____ to recognize this essential _____!

B. We, the created, are not only lower by design but we are lower by our makings - by our moral _____ each one of us wanting to go our own way. (Cf. Rom 5:12; Isa. 53:6)

1. It is no wonder then that in Job 25:6 man is referred to as a maggot and a _____! And, it is no wonder that Paul cried out saying, Rom 7:24, “_____ man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?”

C. If we want a more complete view of the _____ of our pride, then it is not enough to consider how low we are, but we must in comparison also consider how _____ is.

1. Read _____ 4 & 5.

2. This is our Father's world - not ours! And, is not all _____, and honor, and power _____? Is it not true that when we worship Him, we give Him nothing but simply recognize that which true - that all glory, honor, and power belongs to _____ - and _____ one small measure belongs to _____?

3. Men, this _____ who is high and lifted up, shed His blood _____ sin-ridden _____ such as me, and you! "For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body" (1 Cor 6:20).

D. Do you see, mere _____ of flesh, who are born of _____, who in seeking to exult themselves spit insult into the face of the One God, the _____ of our pride? How sinful it is that the rebellious, sin-laden creation would seek to exalt itself when there is One such as this: the infinite, all-knowing, all-seeing _____, Lord, God, and _____!

III. The _____ for our Pride.

A. Let us seek to have _____ from us that we might be prepared to conform to Christ, putting on humility. Let us _____ our souls for humility.

B. Read Isaiah 6:1-7.

1. There is a _____ for pride! It is to _____ as He is, and you as you are!

2. And, realizing that your state is woeful since you are utterly ruined being a man of pride, that you would _____ your _____, and finding that God is most gracious and merciful, your iniquity will be taken away, and your _____.

Closing: Men, we have sinned against the Holy God, our Creator! We have _____ the mark by exalting ourselves and giving to ourselves that which wholly belongs to God: all _____! But God has graciously, and patiently tolerated us - so now, let us _____ of our sin, and _____ that we would be prepared to put on humility. Let us weep and mourn, that in the attitude of our heart, and the living of our life, we would join with those who see God exactly as He is and cry out: "_____, _____, _____, is the Lord God, the Almighty, who was and who is and who is to come." And, "_____ art Thou, our _____ and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for Thou didst create all things, and because of Thy will they existed, and were created."

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