

When Pride Gets the Best of You

According to Christian teachers, the essential vice, the utmost evil, is Pride. Unchastity, anger, greed, drunkenness, and all that, are mere flea bites in comparison: it was through Pride that the devil became the devil: Pride leads to every other vice: it is the complete anti-God state of mind...

... it is Pride which has been the chief cause of misery in every nation and every family since the world began.

C.S. Lewis

A MESSAGE TO AN EMPTY ROOM

Lines can be crossed _____

Individuals and nations are responsible to God _____

There is ultimate justice _____

COULD THIS BE THE SIN THAT BRINGS DOWN A NATION?

Three indicators of pride (Luke 18:9-14):

Self-trust – “ _____ ”

Self-righteous – “ _____ ”

Self-appointed critic – “ _____ ”

God's complaint against Edom

Institutionalized sibling rivalry – an ancient feud

Some Things to Think About
For the week of September 6, 2015

It all comes down to pride; in relation to Judah, Edom was

_____ – they were simply wrong to believe as they did but pride would not let them see it.

_____ – they believed their strategic location could save them

_____ – they practiced an isolationism that refused aid to a godly ally

_____ – they gloated over Judah's catastrophe and exploited their weakness for personal gain

God's judgment toward a prideful nation (or individual)

The destruction of wisdom

The loss of respect – shame and destruction

The arrival of judgment – the day of the Lord is near

SOME PERSONAL LESSONS:

Pride

Is _____ than you think

Is _____ than you think

Is _____ than you think

Grudge-holding or revenge-seeking _____

Taking joy in the misfortune of others _____

Reliance on your own merits and accomplishments _____

In the study this week, we saw that the sin of pride brought down a nation. If you reread the quote by C.S. Lewis at the top of the notes, you see some very strong words about pride. Think of all of the sins that you might put at the top of the list as the *really big ones*. Before the study, would pride be at the top? Why do you think it should be on top?

Read Proverbs 11:2; Proverbs 13:10; Proverbs 16:18-19. What do these verses teach you about pride?

Read Romans 12:3-5. What will an appropriate view of yourself result in?

Pride is deceptive in that it hides itself in different emotions: anger, resentment, bitterness, etc.
Is there anyone or anything in your life that might indicate a prideful spirit? If this is something you can't seem to get over, who might you speak to in order to find help in overcoming it?