

Chief Flaw of Pride

“God has given me grace to speak a WARNING about pride. I would ask each of you to be EMPTIED of self-promotion and not create a FALSE IMAGE of your importance. Instead, honestly assess your worth by using your God-given faith as the standard of measurement, and then you will see your true value with an appropriate self-esteem.”

Romans 12:3 (Passion)

“Not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think.” (NASB, NKJ)

During this morning walk (30/6), I pondered over the root of pride.

- What is the practical understanding of this root cause of pride?
- How does the tares of pride grow in every man?
- How does one end up with a false, deluded image of one's own self-importance, carrying an inflated self-ego around?

The original sin in human is pride. Lucifer fell! It is the mother of all vices. Pride must not grow in the garden of our soul.

Here is one common ground for the growth of the evil heart of pride: Our strength becomes our curse!

When one excels and becomes very skilful in one area of our life's skill-set, the seed of pride is sown in our heart! We begin to form a false image of inflated self-esteem. Out of this pride tree grows the bad attitude of despising others inwardly in our heart like the Pharisees in Luke 18:11, making inward critical self-judgement of others. (Matt 7:1-5)

Remember this for life.

Our strength can become our curse!

Intellect can be a very asset in life. But during bad times, as one calculates one's own self-interest and thinks too much, he becomes the victim of his own self-sabotage, the victim of depression.

One housewife who is so excellent in cooking, she assumes she has every right to criticize others in all affairs. One IT personnel who is skilful in computing, once assumed his/her role is indispensable.

When we flourished in our talent, we began to think too highly of ourselves, our words become bragging, boastful and harsh/rude, and tend to talk down or mock others.

At that point, we are most likely to fail as God distant from us. For God opposes the proud! (James 4:6)

Then we are in real danger of losing the true virtue and walk of humility. Eventually we lose favour, fall from grace and subsequently face the dealings of God.

May God heal us of our waywardness (Heb 12:13) and help us to come out from our deception of one's own blind spot and see ourselves correctly in God's plan of redemptive grace. (1 Cor 15:10)

Miserable Harvests of Pride

“Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before stumbling.”
Proverbs 16:18 (NASB)

There are terrible consequences of the stinging, smelly pride:

“Your boast becomes a prophecy of a future failure. The higher you lift up yourself in pride, the harder you'll fall in disgrace.” (Passion)

Pride has a sure harvest:

- Stumbling in mistake;
- Coming future failure;
- Painful downfall;
- Hard landing in disgrace (lost honour)

Proverbs 15:25

“The Lord destroys the possessions of the proud” (LB)

Proverbs 29:23

“Pride end in a fall, while humility brings honour” (LB)

Arrogant people have to eat their bitter fruits of disgrace. (Matt 23:12)

Isaiah 2:11

“The proud look of man will be abased, and the loftiness of man will be humbled, and the Lord alone shall be exalted in that day.” (See 1 King 21:27-29)