

# SERMON OUTLINE

## THE DESTRUCTIVE TRAP OF PRIDE (PART 1)

DANIEL 4:1-27

FEBRUARY 13, 2022

### I. **God exposes Nebuchadnezzar's pride: vs. 4-18**

### II. **God warns against Nebuchadnezzar's pride: vs. 19-27**

- Pride is an apparent or subtle self-absorption focused on self-exaltation and self-recognition driven with a desire to control and use all things for the advancement of self.
- “There are six things that the LORD hates, seven that are an abomination to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil, a false witness who breathes out lies, and one who sows discord among brothers.” – Proverbs 6:16-19

## FOUR REASONS PRIDE IS A DESTRUCTIVE TRAP

### 1. **Pride employs various manifestations**

- “The massive interest in self-esteem and self-worth exists because it is trying to help us with a real problem. The problem is that we really are not okay. There is no reason why we should feel great about ourselves. We truly are deficient. The meager props of the self-esteem teaching will eventually collapse as people realize that their problem is much deeper. The problem is, in part, our nakedness before God.” – Ed Welch

### 2. **The proud are opposed by God: James 4:6**

- “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” – James 4:6
- “As long as you are proud you cannot know God. A proud man is always looking down on things and people. And of course, as long as you are looking down you cannot see something that is above you.” – C.S. Lewis

**3. Pride is the taproot for all other sin: Proverbs 16:18-19**

- “Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall. It is better to be of a lowly spirit with the poor than to divide the spoil with the proud.” – Proverbs 16:18-19
- “There is no sin so much like the Devil as this, for secrecy and subtlety, and appearing in great many shapes that are undetected and unsuspected, and even appearing as an angel of light: it takes occasion to arise from everything; it perverts and abuses everything and encompass the heart like the coats of an onion; if you pull off one, there is another underneath.” – Jonathan Edwards

**4. Pride blinds the heart from what it needs to see: Proverbs 26:12**

- “Do you see a man who is wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him.” - Proverbs 26:12

<b>SYMPTOMS OF PRIDE</b>		
<b>INTERNAL</b>	<b>RELATIONAL</b>	<b>GOD</b>
Inflated view of your own importance or abilities	Rarely asks forgiveness from others	Lack of gratitude
Consistently judging others in your heart	Thinking you can always do it better than others	Complaining about God
Thinking you could never fall into a particular sin	Talking too much about yourself	Lack consistent prayer
Self-pity because of the gifts and abilities you lack	Becoming devastated due to criticism from others	Rarely think about God outside of church
Impatient	Unteachable	Believe God "owes" you a good life
Lack contentment because you think you deserve more	Being overly defensive	Presume upon God's grace
Being consumed with what others think of you	Maximize other's sins but minimize your own	Lack of trust in God when going through trials

## **BENEDICTION**

Thus says the Lord: "Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the Lord." - Jeremiah 9:23-24