

<sup>[16]</sup> *Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before stumbling.*

[Proverbs 16:18]

First, let me ask you if you know what PRIDEFULNESS is? Our English noun PRIDE is the Hebrew noun גָּוֹהַן (gawohn)<sup>1</sup> which among others has the meanings of 'pride' or 'arrogance'. In some contexts, it refers to the exalted majesty or excellence of the LORD in a good way [Exodus 15:7; Isaiah 24:14; Micah 5:4] and even to His redeemed people and their pride in Him as their God [Isaiah 4:2].

In the Greek it is the Greek noun ἀλαζονεία (aladzonaei),<sup>2</sup> which is ostentatious, boasting about what one is not or does not possess. The one who is prideful shows off what he thinks or pretends he has possesses.

The downfall of Satan was His PRIDE. You learn this in Isaiah 14:12-14 when God says to Satan,  
<sup>[12]</sup> *"How you have fallen from heaven, O star of the morning, son of the dawn! You have been cut down to the earth, you who have weakened the nations! <sup>[13]</sup> But you said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God, and I will sit on the mount of assembly in the recesses of the north. <sup>[14]</sup> I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High."*

Then in answer to this the LORD, in Isaiah 14:15-16 says.

<sup>[15]</sup> *"Nevertheless you will be thrust down to Sheol, to the recesses of the pit. <sup>[16]</sup> Those who see you will gaze at you, they will ponder over you, saying, 'Is this the man who made the earth tremble, who shook kingdoms...."*

The PRIDE of Satan, the devil is further seen in Ezekiel 28:13-17 where you hear God say,  
<sup>[13]</sup> *"You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering: the ruby, the topaz, and the diamond; the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper; the lapis lazuli, the turquoise, and the emerald; and the gold, the workmanship of your settings and sockets, was in you. On the day that you were created they were prepared. <sup>[14]</sup> You were the anointed cherub who covers, and I placed you there. You were on the holy mountain of God; you walked in the midst of the stones of fire. <sup>[15]</sup> You were BLAMELESS in your ways from the day you were created, UNTIL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS was found in you. <sup>[16]</sup> By the abundance of your trade you were internally filled with violence, and you sinned; therefore, I have cast you as profane from the mountain of God. And I have destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. <sup>[17]</sup> Your heart was PROUD because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom by reason of your splendor. I cast you to the ground...."*

In Proverbs 8 "WISDOM" is personified, and speaks in Proverbs 8:12-13 teaching you in verse 13 that,  
*"The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; PRIDE and arrogance and the evil way, and the perverted mouth, I hate."*

Then through the prophet Isaiah the Lord God says in Isaiah 13:11,

<sup>1</sup> "Pride" is the Hebrew noun גָּוֹהַן (gawohn), Strong's Hebrews dictionary noun number 1347.

<sup>2</sup> "Pride" is the Greek noun ἀλαζονεία (aladzonaei), Strong's Greek dictionary noun number 212.

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*“... I will punish the world for its evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; I will also PUT AN END TO the ARROGANCE OF the PROUD and abase the haughtiness [PRIDEFULNESS] of the ruthless.*

Speaking in Ezekiel 16:49-50 God explains what the ‘guilt’ and ‘arrogance’ of Sodom was. It was not just their sexual sins. It was also the fact that in their ‘arrogance’ they “*did not help the poor and needy*”. Therefore, God says that it was because “*they were PRIDEFUL and committed abominations before*” Him. “*Therefore, [He] removed them when [He] saw it.*”

Are you beginning to see that God hates *haughty PRIDEFULNESS*?

In Hosea 5:5 God explains that it was “*The PRIDE of Israel*” which “*testified to his face*”; therefore, “*Israel and Ephraim stumble in their iniquity; Judah also stumbles with them*”. Then Hosea 7:10 says that even “*Though the pride of Israel testifies against him, yet they have neither returned to the Lord their God, Nor have they sought Him....*”

Later, in Zephaniah 2:10-11 God says concerning those who are PRIDEFUL,

*[10] This they will have in return for their PRIDE, because they have taunted and become arrogant against the people of the LORD of hosts. [11] The LORD will be terrifying to them....*

Consider what the Holy Spirit moved James to teach you in James 4:13-17 where you will learn,  
*[13] Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow, we will go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit.” [14] Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away. [15] Instead, you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we will live and also do this or that.” [16] But as it is, you boast in your PRIDE; ALL SUCH BOASTING IS EVIL. [17] Therefore, TO ONE WHO KNOWS the RIGHT THING TO DO, and NOT DOING IT, TO THEM IT IS SIN.*

Then in 1 John 2:15-17 you learn that you are to,

*[15] ... not love the world, nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in them. [16] For all that is in the world, the lustful desires of the flesh and the lustful desires of the eyes and the boastful PRIDE of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. [17] And the world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the ONE WHO DOES the WILL of God ABIDES FOREVER.*

Lord willing, please join me here Tomorrow for Pridefulness: Part Two! Now please join me in prayer.

O Father God, I come before You with thanksgiving, that Today You have taught us the destructive nature of arrogant pride and boasting; which will keep us from having eternal life. Therefore, I humbly bow before You, giving You thanksgiving and praise in the name of my Lord and Savior Jesus in Who’s name I pray. Amen!

Please meditate and pray on these things!

Louise and I pray this will help to both enlighten and encourage you to **know in a greater way** the **One** Who promises in His Word to never leave you nor forsake you [Hebrews 13:5; Deuteronomy 31:6,8]!

*BECAUSE PRIDE GOES BEFORE THE FALL, SO I STRUGGLE TO NOT BE PRIDEFUL! – tom.*