

1 Peter 5:5

All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

### Pride – Restraining the Power and Presence of God

Psalm 10:4 (NIV)

"In his pride the wicked does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God."

Proverbs 16:18-19 (NIV)

"Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall. Better to be lowly in spirit and among the oppressed than to share plunder with the proud."

Pride is giving ourselves the credit for something that God has accomplished.  
Pride is taking the glory that belongs to God alone and keeping it for ourselves.  
Pride is essentially self-worship.

Jonathan Edwards seven symptoms of pride:

#### 1. Fault-Finding

"The humble Christian has so much to do at home and sees so much evil in his own heart that he is not apt to be very busy with other hearts."

#### 2. A Harsh Spirit

#### 3. Superficiality

#### 4. Defensiveness

#### 5. Presumption

#### 6. Desperation for Attention

#### 7. Neglecting Others

C.S. Lewis

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.

1 Corinthians 3:5-14

What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe — as the Lord has assigned to each his task. I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The man who plants and the man who waters have one purpose, and each will be rewarded according to his own labor. For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should be careful how he builds. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid,

which is Jesus Christ. If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward.

Some reminders to the Corinthians and to us:

- We are all simply servants by God's grace

3:5 - What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe.

- Only God causes the kingdom to grow.

3:6-7 - I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.

- We are nothing more than tools in God's hand

3:5 - the Lord has assigned to each his task.

- We are fellow-workers who belong to God.

3:9 - For we are God's fellow workers...

- The church belongs to God alone.

3:9: You are God's field, God's building.

- We all work in this work according to God's grace

3:10 - By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it.

- The only foundation is Jesus.

3:10-11 - But each one should be careful how he builds. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.

- Everything we have is God's gift.

4:6-7 – Now, brothers, I have applied these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, ...The purpose is that none of you will be inflated with pride. For who makes you so superior? What do you have that you didn't receive? If, in fact, you did receive it, why do you boast as if you hadn't received it?