



**ESTHER: FOR SUCH
A TIME AS THIS**
“Pride Goeth Before the Fall”
Esther 5:9-14; 6; 7:6-10
December 15, 2024

Read Esther 5:8-14; 6:6-14

Proud

Quote: "Pride is the ground in which all the other sins grow, and the parent from which all the other sins come." William Barclay

“In general, pride is at the bottom of all mistakes.” John Ruskin

Quote: “A man given to pride is usually proud of the wrong thing. Henry Ford

Refuse to acknowledge who you really are

Proverbs 12:15 (CSB)

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Isaiah 14:14, Proverbs 28:26 (NIV); Luke 12:16-21

“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 “Pride is the only known disease that makes everybody sick except the person who has it.”

Dissatisfaction & destruction

Psalm 7:14-16 (NLT); Proverbs 16:18; 11:19 (CSB)

“A proud man is seldom a grateful man, for he never thinks he gets as much as he deserves.” Henry Ward Beecher

Exaggerate & Empty

Proverbs 29:23 (Message); Proverbs 29:23 NLT

“We can believe almost anything if it be necessary to protect our pride” Dr. Douglas A. Thorn

What should our response be to pride?

1. Understand God hates pride

Proverbs 6:16a; James 4:6a

Quote: “As finite creatures, we cannot fully grasp God's infinite revulsion against pride's rebellion. God hates pride. What makes pride so singularly repulsive to God is the way that pride "contends for supremacy" with God

himself. Pride sets itself in opposition to God. The only fitting response is for God to oppose the proud. That is probably why pride is not simply another sin among many, but a sin in a category of its own. Other sins lead the sinner further away from God, but pride is particularly heinous in that it attempts to elevate the sinner above God.” Jason Meyer

2. Confess & repent of your pride to the Lord

“Pride must die in you, or nothing of heaven can live in you.” Andrew Murray

3. Submit to God & humble yourself before Him 1 Peter 5:5

4. Have people around you who will tell you the truth – hold you accountable. Proverbs 17:17

5. Remember the promises of the Lord

- ✓ He will honor you at the right time 1 Peter 5:5-6
- ✓ He will give you grace James 4:6
- ✓ He will look favorably upon you Isaiah 66:2

RESPONSE QUESTIONS:

- 1) Haman's pride grew after his successful banquet with the king and queen and is evident in his boastful recounting of all of his personal achievements & his desire for recognition. In what areas of your life do you struggle with pride? How can you guard against the temptation to seek your own glory in a culture that prizes fame and success? How can you cultivate humility in your own life, particularly in situations where you might feel entitled or proud?
- 2) Haman's humiliation in front of Mordecai and the king is a public display of pride's consequences. How does this contrast with the temporary satisfaction pride may promise, and inform our understanding of pride's consequences?
- 3) God's justice is executed, and Haman's pride leads to his defeat. How does this passage demonstrate the final triumph of humility & God's righteousness over the destructive power of pride? In your own spiritual journey, how can you continually seek to put God first and humble yourself, knowing that He opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.
- 4) The reversal of Haman's plans and the public honoring of Mordecai demonstrate God's ability to humble the proud. How does this reflect the biblical truth that "pride goes before a fall"? How can we remain faithful to God in times of success and avoid becoming proud or self-reliant?