

RUSSELL SANDERS

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PRIDE, PROUD, HUBRIS

God despises human pride, the kind that makes them arrogant and focuses on their self-importance.

Proverbs 16:5 says, ***“Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD...he shall not be unpunished.”*** Proverbs 21:4 says, ***“A high look (haughty) and a proud heart... is sin.”***

Isaiah 2:12 also says, ***“For the (judgment) day of the Lord of hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty...”***

The word hubris (from the Greek) is defined as excessive pride or self-confidence. It is arrogant human pride. The Greek philosophers, although most were pagan, considered pride to be the greatest of all sins of mankind.

A classic example of this kind of pride was the Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar. He bragged in Daniel 4:30, ***“Is not this great Babylon that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honor of my majesty?”*** After speaking this he instantly lost his sanity and spent seven years as a wild man in the fields eating grass and living like a beast while other men ruled Babylon in his absence.

After seven years his sanity returned when he humbly gave all praise to the Most High God, (Daniel 4:34) and he was restored as ruler of the kingdom because he was humbly repentant.

We, as believers, have all power and authority through Jesus, yet we must not brag on what we have done through His name. We must always make certain that whatever we do that we give God all the glory and credit. We must take no credit ourselves for our accomplishments. We will be judged at the Bema seat of Christ if our motives were not pure. Our accomplishments will be counted as “wood, hay, and stubble” and would be perishable works.

Yes, we are to do great exploits and mighty work in the Father’s Kingdom on earth through Jesus’ name. However, do not think or speak pridefully of these exploits or they will be considered a sin. This also applies to any of our natural accomplishments.

All glory, praise, and honor must be given to the Father and to Jesus.