

My purpose this morning is to examine the evil effects of pride, and extoll the blessings that follow humility.

First of all, pride cuts a proud person off from all the beneficial effects of reproof, rebuke, criticism and counsel, without which it is not possible for any of us to become wise. "A wise child, ' is the results of ' a fathers correction," says the text, and such a child makes his father's heart glad; but the pridein a child's heart will often prevent him from receiving even the correction of a father, and will lead him to dâspise his mother. And if the parents have not firmness and wisdom enough to overcome this childish resistance, it will grow with years, and prove more and more disastrous. The Bible instructs us, "He is in the way of life that heedeth correction, but he that forsaketh reproof is in error." If he had loved reproof ~~he would~~ he would have acquired knowledge, but hating it he become brutish. He that refuses correction despiseth his own soul he that heareth reproof getteth understanding. As the child grows into manhood or womanhood, pride is still more likely to harden our hearts against counsel. Meanwhile, the lowly give heed to counsel and in doing so gather wisdom. No matter who speaks the lowly listens. Exposition- Experiences teaches pride cuts a person off from help, humility makes the whole world its teacher. It enables us to learn from even a fool. Pride shuts off advice and becomes ensnared in its own ivory tower, humility gathers the wisdom of the ages. When you try to advise a proud man -he begins to ask himself not what is the worth of the informantion but who is bringing the information- so misses the information-the in ble receive the information- Correction, wh. are you

INFORMATION
NO ONE WOULD
CONCERNED
WITH WHO'S
TALKING

Then, by pride comes nothing but strife, and he loveth transgression that loveth strife; he that raiseth high his gate, builds a lofty house, seeketh destruction. It is the pride of monarchs and nations which produce war; the sense of personal dignity which is always sudden and quick in quarrel; the feeling of swollen self-importance which is afraid to make peace lest it suffer in the eyes of men. And in the affairs of private life our pride rather than our sense of right, usually creates, fosters, and embitters divisions, alienations, and quarrels. Pride says, I am perfectly innocent I bear no resentment but why should I make the first step, if you - says pride- will come to me, I am willing to forgive and forget." Humility says, "I think I am innocent, but then I may have given offence without knowing it; in any case, I may as well make an offer of apology; if I fail, I fail."

Pride causes strife when those who prosper in the world will heartlessly turn their backs on relations who have not prospered. Men who earn their living one way will condemn those who earn their living in another way. Those who dress in ^{the} fashion will look in another direction when they pass people who do not dress in fashion. From first to last a haughty spirit is a curse and a torment to every one, and of no value to the self. Exposition- A haughty spirit is like a cold biting wind. It produces more sorrow than the north wind produces icicles. It breaks humble hearts, excites passions, it corrupts conduct of the weak, ruins children, poisons social life, flames indifference, plunges nations into war, divides churches. How God dwells in a human heart is a mystery- But my Bible said- He called a little child- because pride would turn heaven into hell- heaven would have little divisions. meekness humility as a little child.

Well, I wish I could finish now but this leads us to contemplate the worst results of Pride and the loveliest outcome of humility. - The Bible informs us, "Every one that is proud of heart is an abomination to the Lord; though hand join in hand he shall not be unpunished." "The Lord will root up the house of the proud; but He will establish the border of the widow." In a word, Pride is hateful to God, who resists the proud and gives grace to the humble. The proud man, whether he knows it or not, comes into direct conflict with God; he may not intend it, but he is pitting himself against God. In that high look and proud heart there seems to be something dignified, flashing and luminous, and it is probably admired by men. By God it is not admired; it is regarded merely as the lamp of the wicked, and as sin. The proud dares the thunderbolts of God. He scorns men whom he sees, and in doing so he scorns God whom he has not seen; the men whom he consciously scorns will, take vengeance upon

him. The proud man has hardened his heart, he has grown great in his own eyes; he has despised the creatures made

in God's image; he will suddenly be cut off, and that without

remedy. Exposition- On the other hand the humble man learns to know and to fear God. God reveals himself to the humble as he has to the proud- To the proud he is a God of vengeance

to the humble he has healing in his wings, leading the contrite spirit to implicit trust in himself. No wonder few

people know God, they think of themselves more highly than they ought to think- First Commandment- Thou shall have etc. We give honor to one another and to ourselves no realizing

to believe in God implies the desire of no honor except that which comes from God. God never shares your heart.

*The Proud Person
Contrary To God -
BECAUSE HOW CAN YOU
BE PROUD AND LOVE
GOD - WHEN GOD HAS
SAID HOW CAN I HATE*

I HAVE LEARNED, SAID PAUL, GOD IS NO RESPECTER OF PERSONS - LETS RAIN FALL ON THE JUST & UNJUST - FRIEND - THE SAME.

YOUR FELLOW MAN WHOM YOU SEE - LOVE GOD WHOM YOU FEEL

If in ordinary human affairs " before destruction the heart of man is haughty, and before honor goeth humility." if even in our dealings with one another happiness and success and prosperity depend on the cultivation of a modest spirit, how much more when we come to deal with God must haughtiness appear the forrunner of destruction, and humility the only way of approach to Him. It is not possible to think too humbly of yourself, it is not possible to be too lowly, you cannot abase yourself too much in His Holy Presence.

If God has set His love upon you, and purposes to make you a temple for His indwelling, He will use method after method of humbling you to prepare you for his entrance. Again and again you will say, Surely now I am low enough, am I not humbled in the dust ? But His hand will still be upon you, and He will show you heads of pride which have yet to be levelled down. In the last humbling you will find that ~~there~~ there is rising within you a certain pride in the humility itself. That also will God subdue. That also will He subdue. And some day, if you are willing, you shall be lowly enough for the Most High to dwell in, humble enough to offer a perpetual sense of incense of praise

Exposition- I remember a group of college students that I had been chosen to bring a lecture on praying, if God is all knowledge, past-present- future- if his eye is in every place - if He is just and good -Why pray? God just wants you to recognize His power and be humble ~~in~~ in his presence and ask- Yes, He knows your needs, but you must acknowledge to the world that you recognize Him. Moses man of unclean lips, act. take off your shoes, humble yourself- Isaiah, man of unclean lips, act.

BUT IF
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IN WHAT
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SAY

take off your shoes, humble yourself- Isaiah, man of unclean lips, act.