

PRIDE. GOD'S PET HATE

I was surprised when I made a search in my Bible of the word pride to find it **only 67** times in the Literal translation, that was the best I could do. I expected to see that word thousands of times. Yet, we read in **Ezekiel 16:49** *“Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fullness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy”*. Lately I have been going to the God’s Squad church in the park and they have been reading through the book of Mark and looking at the character and traits of Jesus and applying it to our lives, it has been an interesting time. Pride basically is living for self and none else.

If we look at the life of Jesus he lived for others, he was unselfish in his own personal well-being ultimately to death, but always helping others all the way through his 3 years of ministry here on earth. If he was the forerunner of what we are supposed to be we really need to look at what Pride is and ensure it is not in our life. Why? Because the Bible also tells us in **Pro 16:18** *Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall*. So if we have pride in our Christian walk we will eventually fall. Yes we all have some pride at one time or another but basically that is covered by the grace of God until the Holy spirit gets us to deal with it.

I have heard and wondered myself about some people who are full of pride and yet God seems to bless them and they seem to go on, notice I said, “seem”. I know people who preach prosperity and say how holy they are and that they are God’s elect and so on and yet at the same time all they are doing is harping on what they have got. Does God see that as pride? Sometimes yes! If we look at the above scripture we can line up the lives of those people and ask ourselves, “Do they help the needy”? Do they have an abundance and do nothing to help their neighbour whoever that may be? This is the type of pride that God hates.

So you may ask when will God deal with it? I say in his own good time. Although some may be full of pride in their possessions and lifestyle, if they do not fall here in this life they will stand before God and fall into hell eventually. People who harp on what God has done for them and how holy they are if you really look closely at their lives, they are in debt, have leased cars that they have to pay for, a mortgage and strife and division around their lives. Those who God blesses are those who have no pride, are not in debt and have an abundance of things or finances that they have been blessed with that have no strings attached. That is the true blessing of God. Is a mortgage a downfall? No, it is part of life, especially with the price of housing today.

I can honestly say that God has blessed me, I am debt free, I have an abundance of things and finances to help others and I love going out of my way to help others. Bikers 4 Christ currently have about \$500, which we will be using to help others, and we have done recently. God has blessed us and we are to be a blessing. Recently I handed a Bikers 4 Christ cheque to a Pastor who travels a long way to help a group, now pride would have done that out in the open, but instead I handed him the cheque under the table so no one else could see.

God hates pride, basically because it is selfish. We need to take a look at our lives daily and ask the Holy Spirit and ourselves am I living a prideful life? One of our Bikers 4 Christ Associates recently donated a 250 motorcycle, which will soon be going to Spanna in Bowen to help some youth get off the streets at night. Another lady donated a little car to us which is going to a young lady who is related to a bikers 4 Christ rider, but they don’t harp on about it. I am not harping here either otherwise I would be passing names. They are unselfish acts. The Bike is not a great looking motorcycle but only a project was wanted anyway, the car is a really nice car, which needs little work for a roadworthy and is going to a young lady who has pulled her life out of the gutter over 2 years ago and is really firing on for God.

We have been blessed for a cheap price with a Laser printer, which is great because the cost of this newsletter was climbing; now we are able to keep the yearly subscription at \$10 for the newsletter. So why are we blessed? Because God loves us! We have a few core group members who have a one tract mind and that is to reach other motorcyclists and we go out of our way to do it at least fortnightly, they use their own finances, their own time they could be sitting at home with family or working or something else, they are selfless acts and I thank God for everyone of them.

What is the opposite of Pride? Humility, Humbleness, an unassuming nature and meekness. Caring about others and showing it by your actions. So check your life today, is there any pride in your life? There is a little in mine in a particular area and I need to deal with it, how about you. Stick with God, be humble, be teachable, wait for things to come to you and don’t go chasing things just because you can’t get your own way. God has timing, a plan, and if we miss it, we may just start moving off into pride. I know a man who has been blessed with a house very cheaply, chose all his own colours, carpets and curtains, he was also given a car at the same time, he also was blessed with getting his bike on the road, Why? Because he waited. Yes I have known him to be a person with a pride problem at times past, but hey, we all have our own little demons to deal with and on a weekly basis, if we wait for God’s blessing we will not have to fall under his judgment like Sodom and Gomorrah did. That may be extreme but think about it, how far can a person go when they let pride take over their lives?

Bless ya, Roscoe.

