



Seven Deadly Sins: Pride / Vanity

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Pride = conceited sense of one's superiority

A. Origins of pride in

Devil ... Isaiah 14:13-15

For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

Ambition ... Daniel 5:20-23

But when his heart was lifted up, and his mind hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him: And he was driven from the sons of men; and his heart was made like the beasts, and his dwelling was with the wild asses: they fed him with grass like oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven; till he knew that the most high God ruled in the kingdom of men, and that he appointeth over it whomsoever he will. And thou his son, O Belshazzar, hast not humbled thine heart, though thou knewest all this; But hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of his house before thee, and thou, and thy lords, thy wives, and thy concubines, have drunk wine in them; and thou hast praised the gods of silver, and gold, of brass, iron, wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know: and the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified:

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Evil heart ... Mark 7:21, 22

For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness:

World ... 1 John 2:16

For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

Self-righteousness .. Luke 18:11,12

The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.

Worldly power ... Ezekiel 16:49, 56

Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. For thy sister Sodom was not mentioned by thy mouth in the day of thy pride,

B. Evils of pride

Strife ... Proverbs 13:10

Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom.

Hardens mind ... Daniel 5:20

But when his heart was lifted up, and his mind hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him:

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Produces decay ... Hosea 7:9, 10

Strangers have devoured his strength, and he knoweth it not: yea, gray hairs are here and there upon him, yet he knoweth not. And the pride of Israel testifieth to his face: and they do not return to the LORD their God, nor seek him for all this.

Stops real progress ... Proverbs 26:12

Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit? there is more hope of a fool than of him.

Hinders coming to God ... Psalm 10:4

The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts.

Self-deception ... Jeremiah 49:16

Thy terribleness hath deceived thee, and the pride of thine heart, O thou that dwellest in the clefts of the rock, that holdest the height of the hill: though thou shouldest make thy nest as high as the eagle, I will bring thee down from thence, saith the LORD.

Men reject God's Law-Word ... Jeremiah 43:12

And I will kindle a fire in the houses of the gods of Egypt; and he shall burn them, and carry them away captives: and he shall array himself with the land of Egypt, as a shepherd putteth on his garment; and he shall go forth from thence in peace.

Leads to ruin ... Proverbs 16:18

Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall

Vanity = empty futility

A. Vanity described as

Man's estate ... Psalm 39:5, 11

Behold, thou hast made my days as an handbreadth; and mine age is as nothing before thee: verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity. Selah. When thou with rebukes dost correct man for iniquity, thou makest his beauty to consume away like a moth: surely every man is vanity. Selah.

Man's life ... Psalm 144:4

Man is like to vanity: his days are as a shadow that passeth away.

Sin's end ... Proverbs 22:8

He that soweth iniquity shall reap vanity: and the rod of his anger shall fail.

Man's thoughts ... Psalm 94:11

The LORD knoweth the thoughts of man, that they are vanity.

Idolatry ... Act 14:15

And saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein

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B. Vanity seen in the wicked's

Words ... Psalm 12:2

They speak vanity every one with his neighbour: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak.

Thoughts ... Psalm 94:11

The LORD knoweth the thoughts of man, that they are vanity.

Trust ... Isaiah 59:4

None calleth for justice, nor any pleadeth for truth: they trust in vanity, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity.

Worship ... Jeremiah 51:17, 18

Every man is brutish by his knowledge; every founder is confounded by the graven image: for his molten image is falsehood, and there is no breath in them. They are vanity, the work of errors: in the time of their visitation they shall perish.

C. Believer's attitude toward vanity

Remove vanity ... Proverbs 30:8

Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me:

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Should not walk in ... Ephesians 4:17

This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind,

Does not want to see ... Psalm 119:37

Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; and quicken thou me in thy way.