

Faith Heroes

The Downside of Pride

The Lord preserves those who are true to him, but the proud he pays back in full. Psalm 31:23

Whoever has haughty eyes and a proud heart, I will not tolerate. Psalm 101:5

The Lord detests all the proud of heart. Be sure of this: They will not go unpunished. Proverbs 16:5

God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble. James 4:6

Pride is the number one enemy of following God.

Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall. Proverbs 16:18

I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at home in my palace, contented and prosperous.





5 I had a dream that made me afraid. As I was lying in my bed, the images and visions that passed through my mind terrified me. Daniel 4:4,5

“Let him be drenched with the dew of heaven, and let him live with the animals among the plants of the earth. 16 Let his mind be changed from that of a man and let him be given the mind of an animal, till seven times pass by for him. Daniel 4:15,16

Then Daniel (also called Belteshazzar) was greatly perplexed for a time, and his thoughts terrified him. So the king said, “Belteshazzar, do not let the dream or its meaning alarm you.” Belteshazzar answered, “My lord, if only the dream applied to your enemies and its meaning to your adversaries! Daniel 4:19

“This is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree the Most High has issued against my lord the king: 25 You will be driven away from people and will live with the wild animals; you will eat grass like cattle and be drenched with the dew of heaven. Seven times will pass by for you until you acknowledge that the Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone he wishes. Daniel 4:24,25

Therefore, O king, be pleased to accept my advice: Renounce your sins by doing what is right, and your wickedness by being kind to the oppressed. It may be that then your prosperity will continue. " Daniel 4:27

The first step in overcoming a pride issue is to admit your mistakes.

Twelve months later, as the king was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon, 30 he said, "Is not this the great Babylon I have built as the royal residence, by my mighty power and for the glory of my majesty?" Daniel 4:29,30

The words were still on his lips when a voice came from heaven, "This is what is decreed for you, King Nebuchadnezzar: Your royal authority has been taken from you. 32 You will be driven away from people and will live with the wild animals; you will eat grass like cattle. Seven times will pass by for you until you acknowledge that the Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone he wishes." 33 Immediately what had been said about Nebuchadnezzar was fulfilled. He was driven away from people and ate grass like cattle. His body was drenched with the dew of heaven until his hair grew like the feathers of an eagle and his nails like the claws of a bird. Daniel 4:31-33

The second step in overcoming a pride issue is to notice when God is trying to get your attention.

34 At the end of that time, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my sanity was restored. Then I praised the Most High; I honored and glorified him who lives forever. His dominion is an eternal dominion; his kingdom endures from generation to generation. 35 All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back his hand or say to him: "What have you done?" 36 At the same time that my sanity was restored, my honor and splendor were returned to me for the

glory of my kingdom. My advisers and nobles sought me out, and I was restored to my throne and became even greater than before. 37 Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble. Daniel 4:34-37

Three More Steps Toward Humility:

1. Give credit to God for the good in your life.
2. Don't base your value on your accomplishments.
3. Know that God can do things with your life that you cannot.

God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble. James 4:6

Closing question

Who wants to live their life with God's favor?