

FOOTHOLDS #4

THREATS AND VULNERABILITIES: PRIDE

Call Study – Jason Park

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

²⁷Therefore, Your Majesty, 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."

²⁸ All this happened to King Nebuchadnezzar. ²⁹ 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?" ³¹ Even as the words were on his lips, 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 the ox. Seven times will pass by for you until you acknowledge that the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and gives them to anyone he wishes." Daniel 4:27-32

PRIDE IS DECEIVING

Is not this the great Babylon I have built as the royal residence, by my mighty power and for the glory of my majesty? Dan. 5:30

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

BLINDS US TO OUR DEPENDENCE ON GOD

¹⁷ You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." ¹⁸ But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today. **Deut. 8:17-18**

PRIDE BRINGS DESTRUCTION

³¹ Even as the words were on his lips, 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 the ox. Seven times will pass by for you until you acknowledge that the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and gives them to anyone he wishes. **Dan. 4:31-32**

⁶ But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble. Jam. 4:6

GRATITUDE = **HUMILITY** = PRIDE IS **LOSES**

⁷I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power.⁸ Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, **Eph. 3:7-8**

AM I BEING PROUD?

I HAVE AN UNWILLING ATTITUDE - "I Don't Need Help"

The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice. Pro. 12:15

I AM OVERLY CRITICAL – "I Know Better"

God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. James 4:6

I AM DEFENSIVE – "I'm Never Wrong"

Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates reproof is stupid. Prov. 12:1

I AM INDEPENDENT – "I Don't Need God"

Apart from Me, you can do nothing. Jn. 15:5

I NEED TO BE PRAISED – "I Deserve Recognition"

Let another praise you, and not your own mouth. Prov. 27:2

HOW TO GUARD AGAINST PRIDE:

- 1. ASK GOD TO REVEAL IT
- 2. SEEK ACCOUNTABILITY
- 3. EMBRACE HUMILITY
- 4. PRACTICE GRATITUDE

THE CURE? HUMILITY IS THE ONLY ANTIDOTE

⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. **1 Peter 5:6-7**

New Testament/Psalms/Proverbs

