



## PRIDE PROBLEMS

STUART BRISCOE

(2 Chronicles 26:16-19)

**T**here is a fine balance between pride and confidence. On the positive side, confidence is necessary for success. On the negative side, however, pride often leads to self-destruction. We want to be confident in what God has given us to do and what God thinks of us. Yet we don't want to have a big head and an inflated opinion about ourselves. God wants us to have a good self-image, but not to be proud.

### THE PITFALLS OF PRIDE

We all need the faith to develop confidence in God, being careful not to place our confidence in ourselves. Pride motivates people to do what is best for themselves—even at the expense of others. Pride tells people that they deserve to be rewarded, promoted, and applauded. Pride won't allow people to admit their weaknesses and reach out for help. In fact, pride is the greatest factor in keeping people from seeking counseling because they don't think that they need anyone's help in dealing with their problems. Some people are so proud and self-confident that they won't even consult the Lord. They can't trust God with their lives because they prefer to trust their own instincts and abilities.

When some people begin to experience a degree of success, they become overly confident of their own abilities. They behave as if no one else in the world can do what they can do. That is to say, they get an exaggerated sense of their own importance and are puffed up with pride, making it difficult for most people to work with them. They may become boastful, arrogant, and rude. Boasting is their way of trying to look good when they suspect that they are not good. It is a private advertising business, a little campaign to publicize an image of themselves. Arrogance is an anxious grasp for power when they fear that they

are weak. Rudeness is putting people down in order to hold themselves up.

### GOD'S WORD AND PRIDE

Pride is the root expression of our sinful nature. Pride is so puffed up with its own importance that it can't listen to another voice with a contrary opinion to its own. Both the Old and New Testaments use "pride" in the negative sense. Pride caused Adam and Eve to violate God's Word (Gen. 3:4-6). Pride motivated Satan to rebel against God, which led to his fall. Isaiah 14:13, 14 and Ezekiel 28:11-19 are often taken as descriptions of Satan's fall. Pride, which motivated this powerful angel to set his will against God's, is portrayed as the culprit.

In the New Testament, Paul warns against several expressions of pride. Pride is particularly dangerous in the non-Christian who seeks to earn salvation. Because salvation is and must be a work of God for human beings rather than a work of human beings for God, reliance on one's own efforts distorts the gospel message. Salvation is a gift of God. It is through faith in Jesus Christ, not because of any self-achievement in which a person could take pride. Paul wrote, "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast" (Eph. 2:8, 9).

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The Bible says that God resists the proud and gives grace to the humble (Prov. 3:34). Jesus exemplified the virtues of meekness, kindness, and humility (Matt. 5:3-10).

### **HUMILITY CONQUERS PRIDE**

Humility, on the other hand, is always looking for someone to listen to, not for someone to talk to. Humility bends near those who are hurting, focusing attention on the need. Pride tells people they don't need anyone else. Humility tells them that they can't do anything without God. Humility reminds people that God is the source of their gifts and abilities. He alone can empower people to serve Him. Pride is the arrogant refusal to let God be God. Pride is saying, "I'm something apart from God." Humility says, "I am something because of God."

Love, by its very nature, is humble. Love is primarily concerned with the other's well-being, irrespective of the cost to itself. Love isn't puffed up with its own importance. Love empties itself in self-sacrifice, making the other person feel good. Love is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit.

So how do we grow humility? First, we need a healthy view of God. When Isaiah looked through the door of heaven in prayer, he said, "I saw the Lord" (Is. 6:1). He saw the Lord in all His majesty and glory and worship, and then he saw himself and realized his own great sinfulness (Is. 6:5).

Second, we spend a lot of time in worship. We use the Word of God as a mirror. Every time we read the Bible, we look for the Lord and then we look at ourselves. When we look into God's Word, we have to see not only Him, but a reflection of who we are.

Finally, we can also do a lot of praising. Gratitude helps us cope with pride and

keeps us where we should be—humbly thanking God for who He is and what He is doing through us.

### **FURTHER MEDITATION:**

Other passages to study about the issue of pride include:

- > Deuteronomy 8:11-20
- > Psalm 10:2-11
- > Proverbs 8:13; 13:10; 28:25; 29:23
- > Obadiah 3, 4
- > Acts 12:22, 23
- > Romans 12:3
- > 2 Timothy 3:2-5

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To Learn More: Turn to the key passage note on pride at James 4:6-10 on page 1649. See also the personality profile of the king of Tyre on page 1076.

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weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and *your* joy to gloom. <sup>10</sup>Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.

#### DO NOT JUDGE A BROTHER

<sup>11</sup>Do not speak evil of one another, brethren.

He who speaks evil of a brother and judges his brother, speaks evil of the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge.

<sup>12</sup>There is one Lawgiver,<sup>a</sup> who is able to save and to destroy. Who<sup>b</sup> are you to judge another?<sup>c</sup>

Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

JAMES 4:8

#### DO NOT BOAST ABOUT TOMORROW

<sup>13</sup>Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will<sup>a</sup> go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit";<sup>14</sup>whereas you do not know what *will*

*happen* tomorrow. For what *is* your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.

<sup>15</sup>Instead you *ought* to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that."<sup>16</sup>But now you

4:12 <sup>a</sup>NU-Text adds *and Judge*. <sup>b</sup>NU-Text and M-Text read *But who*. <sup>c</sup>NU-Text reads *a neighbor*.

4:13 <sup>a</sup>M-Text reads *let us*.

### KEY PASSAGE



Pride

## BEFORE A FALL

(4:6-10)

The Bible consistently warns against pride. "God resists the proud," writes James. Pride brings shame, strife, and foolishness (Prov. 11:2; 13:10; 14:3).

Proud people are "an abomination" for "pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall" (Prov. 16:5, 18).

Pride hurts one's relationship with God because proud people think they don't need Him. Pride hurts one's relationships with others because proud people are self-centered and feel superior. Pride makes people blind to their own sinfulness. God opposes the proud, for their pride is sinful and He knows their danger to themselves and to others.

The antidote to pride is a good dose of humility. Sometimes proud people are humbled through circumstances or even tragedy. When God gets their attention, He offers them grace. Humility is not weakness; instead, it is the willingness to "submit to God." When we humble ourselves before Him, He promises to lift us up.

To Learn More: Turn to the article about pride on pages 572, 573. See also the personality profile of the king of Tyre on page 1076.

### SOUL NOTE



**Rush to Judgment (4:11, 12)** Discipline is necessary for those in the fellowship who are involved in destructive sin. But when believers judge one another, they act against God's law. This passage refers to individuals who readily take God's judgment into their own hands, often over minor issues. When believers are too zealous to judge others, they cause hurt and division. Jesus said, "Judge not, that you be not judged" (Matt. 7:1). Instead of a critical spirit, we should show understanding, compassion, and love. **Topic: Judgmentalism**

And gathered gold and silver into your treasuries;  
 5 By your great wisdom in trade you have increased your riches, And your heart is lifted up because of your riches),”

6“Therefore thus says the Lord GOD:

“Because you have set your heart as the heart of a god,  
 7 Behold, therefore, I will bring strangers against you, The most terrible of the nations; And they shall draw their swords against the beauty of your wisdom, And defile your splendor.  
 8 They shall throw you down into the Pit, And you shall die the death of the slain In the midst of the seas.

“Will you still say before him who slays you, ‘I am a god?’ But you *shall be* a man, and not a god, In the hand of him who slays you.

10 You shall die the death of the uncircumcised By the hand of aliens; For I have spoken,” says the Lord GOD.

#### LAMENTATION FOR THE KING OF TYRE

11Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 12“Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD:

“You *were* the seal of perfection, Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.  
 13 You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone *was* your covering: The sardius, topaz, and diamond, Beryl, onyx, and jasper, Sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes Was prepared for you on the day you were created.

14 “You *were* the anointed cherub who covers; I established you;



**Pride**

### PERSONALITY PROFILE

## THE PRIDE OF THE KING OF TYRE

(EZEKIEL 28:11-19)

Tyre was one of the great cities of the ancient world and the capital of the Phoenician Empire. God instructed the prophet Ezekiel to issue a “lamentation for the king of Tyre” (28:11). The language and imagery of the prophecy indicate that both the king and his great city were simply contemporary examples of the great struggle between God and a rebellion led by Satan. The pride of the king of Tyre illustrates the pride of Satan himself. In spite of being the “anointed cherub” (28:14) who served in the very presence of God, Satan fell because his pride caused him to be lifted up against God Himself. The king’s fall and the destruction of the city provide a shocking picture of the results of God’s judgment on that location as well as on Satan.

The reputation of the city serves as a reminder that greatness and “wisdom” come from God, and can be taken by Him. The “iniquity” (28:15) that leads to destruction refers to the pride that caused Tyre and her king, like Satan long ago, to forget their Maker. Ezekiel described the results as a “horror” (28:19). The city would be “no more forever” (28:19). Ezekiel’s prophecy came true in the humiliation and displacement of Tyre as a great city. The words of Proverbs apply equally to Tyre and Satan, “Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall” (Prov. 16:18).

To Learn More: Turn to the article about pride on pages 572, 573. See also the key passage note at James 4:6-10 on page 1649.

- 15 In the light of the king's face *is* life,  
And his favor *is* like a cloud of the latter  
rain.
- 16 How much better to get wisdom than  
gold!  
And to get understanding is to be chosen  
rather than silver.
- 17 The highway of the upright *is* to depart  
from evil;  
He who keeps his way preserves his  
soul.
- 18 Pride goes before destruction,  
And a haughty spirit before a fall.
- 19 Better *to be* of a humble spirit with the  
lowly,  
Than to divide the spoil with the proud.
- 20 He who heeds the word wisely will find  
good,  
And whoever trusts in the LORD, happy  
*is* he.
- 21 The wise in heart will be called prudent,  
And sweetness of the lips increases  
learning.
- 22 Understanding *is* a wellspring of life to  
him who has it.  
But the correction of fools *is* folly.
- 23 The heart of the wise teaches his mouth,  
And adds learning to his lips.
- 24 Pleasant words *are like* a honeycomb,  
Sweetness to the soul and health to the  
bones.
- 25 There is a way *that seems* right to a man,  
But its end *is* the way of death.
- 26 The person who labors, labors for  
himself,  
For his *hungry* mouth drives him *on*.
- 27 An ungodly man digs up evil,  
And *it is on his lips* like a burning fire.
- 28 A perverse man sows strife,  
And a whisperer separates the best of  
friends.
- 29 A violent man entices his neighbor,  
And leads him in a way *that is not*  
good.
- 30 He winks his eye to devise perverse  
things;  
He purses his lips *and* brings about evil.
- 31 The silver-haired head *is* a crown of  
glory,  
*If it is found* in the way of righteousness.
- 32 *He who is slow to anger is better than*  
the mighty,  
And he who rules his spirit than he who  
takes a city.
- 33 The lot is cast into the lap,  
But its every decision *is* from the LORD.
- 17** Better *is* a dry morsel with quietness,  
Than a house full of feasting<sup>a</sup> *with*  
strife.
- 2 A wise servant will rule over a son who  
causes shame,  
And will share an inheritance among the  
brothers.
- 3 The refining pot *is* for silver and the  
furnace for gold,  
But the LORD tests the hearts.

17:1 <sup>a</sup>Or *sacrificial meals*

#### SOUL NOTE



**Look Down, Look Out (16:18)** The Bible warns about the dangers of pride. At its root, pride is really the idolatry of self—worshiping oneself instead of God. A proud attitude says, “I don’t need God, I can handle this myself.” It is a “haughty spirit” by which people think they can look down on everyone and everything else. Such an attitude, says the Bible, goes “before a fall.” Whenever people let pride control their thoughts and actions, they may succeed temporarily, but ultimately they are headed for disaster. **Topic: Pride**

But be ashamed of your harvest  
Because of the fierce anger of the LORD.”

<sup>14</sup>Thus says the LORD: “Against all My evil neighbors who touch the inheritance which I have caused My people Israel to inherit—behold, I will pluck them out of their land and pluck out the house of Judah from among them. <sup>15</sup>Then it shall be, after I have plucked them out, that I will return and have compassion on them and bring them back, everyone to his heritage and everyone to his land. <sup>16</sup>And it shall be, if they will learn carefully the ways of My people, to swear by My name, ‘As the LORD lives,’ as they taught My people to swear by Baal, then they shall be established in the midst of My people. <sup>17</sup>But if they do not obey, I will utterly pluck up and destroy that nation,” says the LORD.

**SYMBOL OF THE LINEN SASH**

**13** Thus the LORD said to me: “Go and get yourself a linen sash, and put it around your waist, but do not put it in water.”  
<sup>2</sup>So I got a sash according to the word of the LORD, and put it around my waist.

<sup>3</sup>And the word of the LORD came to me the second time, saying, <sup>4</sup>“Take the sash that you acquired, which is around your waist, and arise, go to the Euphrates,<sup>a</sup> and hide it there in a hole in the rock.” <sup>5</sup>So I went and hid it by the Euphrates, as the LORD commanded me.

<sup>6</sup>Now it came to pass after many days that the LORD said to me, “Arise, go to the Euphrates, and take from there the sash which I commanded you to hide there.” <sup>7</sup>Then I went to the Euphrates and dug, and I took the sash from the place where I had hidden it; and there was the sash, ruined. It was profitable for nothing.

<sup>8</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying, <sup>9</sup>“Thus says the LORD: ‘In this manner

I will ruin the pride of Judah and the great pride of Jerusalem. <sup>10</sup>This evil people, who refuse to hear My words, who follow the dictates of their hearts, and walk after other gods to serve them and worship them, shall be just like this sash which is profitable for nothing. <sup>11</sup>For as the sash clings to the waist of a man, so I have caused the whole house of Israel and the whole house of Judah to cling to Me,’ says the LORD, ‘that they may become My people, for renown, for praise, and for glory; but they would not hear.’

**SYMBOL OF THE WINE BOTTLES**

<sup>12</sup>“Therefore you shall speak to them this word: ‘Thus says the LORD God of Israel: “Every bottle shall be filled with wine.”’

“And they will say to you, ‘Do we not certainly know that every bottle will be filled with wine?’

<sup>13</sup>“Then you shall say to them, ‘Thus says the LORD: “Behold, I will fill all the inhabitants of this land—even the kings who sit on David’s throne, the priests, the prophets, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem—with drunkenness! <sup>14</sup>And I will dash them one against another, even the fathers and the sons together,” says the LORD. “I will not pity nor spare nor have mercy, but will destroy them.”’”

**PRIDE PRECEDES CAPTIVITY**

- <sup>15</sup> Hear and give ear:  
Do not be proud,  
For the LORD has spoken.
- <sup>16</sup> Give glory to the LORD your God  
Before He causes darkness,  
And before your feet stumble  
On the dark mountains,  
And while you are looking for light,  
He turns it into the shadow of death

13:4 <sup>a</sup>Hebrew *Perath*

**SOUL NOTE**



**The Perfect Resource (13:15)** Some people think that God’s Word is dated and somewhat limited—fine for establishing broad principles but ineffectual in providing specific daily guidance. As a result, when faced with everyday challenges and temptations, they tend to trust their own instincts and hope for the best.

Only after they mess things up on their own do they turn to the Lord and His Word for help. This pride prevents them from fully experiencing God’s hand in their lives. God says, “Do not be proud, for the LORD has spoken.” **Topic: Pride**

## THE COMING JUDGMENT ON EDOM

<sup>1</sup>The vision of Obadiah.

Thus says the Lord GOD concerning  
Edom

(We have heard a report from the LORD,  
And a messenger has been sent among  
the nations, *saying*,

"Arise, and let us rise up against her for  
battle");

"Behold, I will make you small among the  
nations;

You shall be greatly despised.

The pride of your heart has deceived  
you,

You who dwell in the clefts of the rock,  
Whose habitation is high;

You who say in your heart, 'Who will  
bring me down to the ground?'

Though you ascend as high as the eagle,  
And though you set your nest among the  
stars,

From there I will bring you down," says  
the LORD.

"If thieves had come to you,  
If robbers by night—

Oh, how you will be cut off!—

Would they not have stolen till they had  
enough?

If grape-gatherers had come to you,  
Would they not have left *some*  
gleanings?

"Oh, how Esau shall be searched out!  
*How* his hidden treasures shall be sought  
after!

<sup>7</sup> All the men in your confederacy  
Shall force you to the border;  
The men at peace with you

Shall deceive you *and* prevail against  
you.

Those *who eat* your bread shall lay a  
trap<sup>a</sup> for you.

No one is aware of it.

<sup>8</sup> "Will I not in that day," says the LORD,  
"Even destroy the wise *men* from Edom,  
And understanding from the mountains  
of Esau?

Then your mighty men, O Teman, shall  
be dismayed,

To the end that everyone from the  
mountains of Esau

May be cut off by slaughter.

## EDOM MISTREATED HIS BROTHER

<sup>10</sup> "For violence against your brother Jacob,  
Shame shall cover you,  
And you shall be cut off forever.

<sup>11</sup> In the day that you stood on the other  
side—

In the day that strangers carried captive  
his forces,

When foreigners entered his gates  
And cast lots for Jerusalem—

Even you *were* as one of them.

<sup>12</sup> "But you should not have gazed on the  
day of your brother

In the day of his captivity;<sup>a</sup>

Nor should you have rejoiced over the  
children of Judah

In the day of their destruction;

Nor should you have spoken proudly

In the day of distress.

<sup>13</sup> You should not have entered the gate of  
My people

<sup>7</sup> <sup>a</sup>Or *wound, or plot*    <sup>12</sup> <sup>a</sup>Literally *on the day he  
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## SOUL NOTE



**Gloating** (1-3) The Edomites were Israel's relatives, descendants of Jacob's brother, Esau. When the Israelites faced invasion, however, Edom refused to come to their aid, even gloating over Israel's troubles behind their protective mountain peaks. The prophet Obadiah condemned them for their pride and complete indifference to the Israelites' predicament. Their mountain fortress couldn't protect them from God, however. He would judge them for their pride. "As you have done, it shall be done to you," He said (15). Indeed, "pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall" (Prov. 16:18). **Topic: Pride**

Spiritual  
Gifts

members of one another. <sup>6</sup>Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; <sup>7</sup>or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; <sup>8</sup>he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

**BEHAVE LIKE A CHRISTIAN**

<sup>9</sup>Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. <sup>10</sup>Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in

honor giving preference to one another; <sup>11</sup>not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; <sup>12</sup>rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; <sup>13</sup>distributing to the needs of the saints, given to

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.

<sup>17</sup>Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. <sup>18</sup>If it is

**SOUL NOTE**



**Like Oil and Water (12:3)** God is against arrogance. Like oil and water, pride and faith don't mix. God created each person with great care. Every believer is valuable and needed by God. Each has gifts, uniquely given by God, to use in furthering the interests of His kingdom. Believers should humbly serve with those gifts in whatever circumstances God has put them. No one should "think of himself more highly than he ought to think," but "think soberly." We should thank God for His great love and serve Him with all our hearts. **Topic: Pride**

**SOUL NOTE**



**Guidelines (12:9-13)** Christ had said that the two greatest commandments were to love God and love one's neighbor (Luke 10:27). We should run every aspect of every decision through the filter of whether it is loving toward God or loving toward another person. In these verses, Paul gives further advice, warning people against hypocritical love and hanging on to evil ways. He advises kindness, diligence, fervent service, joy, patience, and prayer. In addition, believers should be known for giving and for hospitality. Following this advice through the guidance of the Holy Spirit will help believers live to glorify God. **Topic: Spiritual Growth**

**SOUL NOTE**



**Careful in Conflict (12:14-21)** Conflict is inevitable. Paul advised believers to be careful in conflicts with those outside the faith. Christians must resist the temptation to retaliate against evil; instead, they should bless their persecutors, refuse to repay evil for evil, and, "overcome evil with good." That's because God will take care of the vengeance, the repayment, and the punishment. As much as we might like to take matters into our own hands, God will handle the situation for us, in His time and in His way. Following Paul's advice can keep us out of worse situations, and may even help bring the perpetrators to Christ. **Topic: Conflict**



the flesh *is* more needful for you. <sup>25</sup>And being confident of this, I know that I shall remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy of faith, <sup>26</sup>that your rejoicing for me may be more abundant in Jesus Christ by my coming to you again.

#### STRIVING AND SUFFERING FOR CHRIST

<sup>27</sup>Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel, <sup>28</sup>and not in any way terrified by your adversaries, which is to them a proof of perdition, but to you of salvation,<sup>a</sup> and that from God. <sup>29</sup>For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake, <sup>30</sup>having the same conflict which you saw in me and now hear *is* in me.

#### UNITY THROUGH HUMILITY

**2** Therefore if *there is* any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, <sup>2</sup>fulfill my joy by being like-minded,

having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Let nothing *be done* through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

#### THE HUMBLED AND EXALTED CHRIST

<sup>5</sup>Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, <sup>7</sup>but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup>And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point* of death, even the death of the cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, <sup>10</sup>that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**1:28** <sup>a</sup>NU-Text reads *of your salvation*.

#### SOUL NOTE



**Pride Problems (2:1-4)** Paul stresses spiritual unity in the body of Christ. Selfish ambition and conceit bring discord, which draws people's focus away from Christ and toward themselves and their desires. Genuine humility, however, builds and strengthens the body of believers. Being humble involves having a true perspective about ourselves (Rom. 12:3), "lowliness of mind," and looking out for the interests of others. Believers must lay aside any pride or selfishness, always treating people with respect. In that way, we will be following the example of Christ, who selflessly gave His life for us (2:8). **Topic: Pride**

#### SOUL NOTE



**A Hearty Welcome (2:2-4)** Philippi was a cosmopolitan city whose church reflected great diversity of backgrounds and social status. With so many lifestyles and attitudes represented, unity must have been difficult to maintain. Paul encouraged the believers to guard against any selfishness, prejudice, or jealousy that might lead to division. This holds true as the church continues to reach out to all walks of life. We must remember not to prejudge, but rather, to welcome new believers with open minds and genuine interest, taking positive steps toward building unity in Christ. **Topic: Attitudes**

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<sup>12</sup>The ways of now men own salvation is God's do for H

<sup>14</sup>Do disputing and hating the middle of the world. I may rejoice in it.

<sup>17</sup>Yes, drink of your faith. <sup>18</sup>For the joy with

TIMOTHY

<sup>19</sup>But thy to be aged with one like your state things to know his father. <sup>23</sup>There as I see the Lord the

EPAPHRO

<sup>25</sup>Yet you Epaphroditus and fellow the one was long cause y



resur etern Jesus our a