

THE PITFALLS OF PRIDE

II Samuel 24

Let us learn from David about the pitfalls of pride.

I. PRIDE'S CORRUPTION (1-4)

A. THE CONDITIONS

1. God's Anger (1a)
2. David's Attitude (1b)
 - a. Careless: David's anger is incited against his own people
 - b. Controlled: He allowed Satan to lure him into sin
 - c. Cocky: "Go number Israel and Judah"

B. THE COMMAND (2)

- Count the people!

C. THE CONFRONTATION (3)

1. The Confronter: Joab
2. The Question: Why do you delight in this?
3. A Comment: The need for confronters

D. THE CALLOUSNESS (4)

1. Determination: David did not listen
2. Decision: David sent others to carry out his sin

II. PRIDE'S CONDEMNATION (10)

A. THE CONVICTION

1. The torture: A troubled heart
2. The timing: After nine months of sin! (cf. v.8)

B. THE CONFESSION

1. Directed to the right source
2. Declaring the right things
 - I'm a sinful fool

C. THE CLEANSING

1. A plea: "Now, Lord, please ..."
2. The problem: Iniquity
3. The pardon: Take this away

TRANS: So now these pitfalls of pride are over and done with ... right? ... NOT YET!

III. PRIDE'S CONSEQUENCES (11-16)

A. THE REALITY (11-13)

1. A restlessness (11)
 - David had to wait
2. A requirement (12-13)
 - God was going to require more than a confession
3. A reminder
 - Sin has consequences
4. A responsibility
 - David had led them into sin and would now lead them into suffering

B. THE RECORD (14-17)

1. Pestilence: God's action against Israel (15)
2. Peril: 70,000 people die (15)
3. Punishment: An angel striking down people (17)

IV. PRIDE'S CONQUEST (16-25)

A. GOD'S RELUCTANCE (16)

- The Lord stopped the death angel's progress

B. DAVID'S REMORSE (17)

- In shock, he appeals for God to allow his family to suffer

C. DAVID'S REMEDY (18-24)

1. Obedience (18-19)
2. Humility (20-24)

D. DAVID'S RESTORATION (25)

1. Approaching God: Building an altar
2. Seeking God's forgiveness and fellowship
3. Hearing from God: The plague is stayed

CONCLUSION:

Let's avoid the pitfalls of pride!

- See I John 2:15-17