

~PRIDE (321)

[Hebrew, *ga- 'ah'*, Greek, *kau-kha'o-ma'*]

- .. **Pride Is Deceptive And Destructive**
- .. **Pride Is Deceptive**
- .. **Boasting**
- .. **A Good Connotation**

▪ **Inordinate self-esteem, an unreasonable feeling of superiority as to ones talents, beauty, wealth, rank, and so forth, disdainful behavior or treatment, insolence or arrogance of demeanor, haughty bearing. Pride can, more rarely, have the good connotation of a sense of delight or elation arising from some act or possession. Some synonyms of pride are egotism, arrogance, haughtiness.**

▪ **The Hebrew verb *ga- 'ah'* literally means, grow tall, get high and is the root of a number of Hebrew words conveying the idea of pride. These related forms are rendered, haughtiness, self-exaltation, and, in both good and bad senses, eminence, and superiority.**

▪ **Will a papyrus plant *grow tall* without a swampy place? Will a reed grow big without water? (Job 8:11)**

▪ **And he continued measuring a thousand. It was a torrent that I was not able to pass through, for the water had *got high*, water permitting swimming, a torrent that could not be passed through. (Ezekiel 47:5)**

▪ **And the people will certainly know it, even all of them, Ephraim and the inhabitant of Samaria, because of their *haughtiness* and because of their insolence of heart in saying; (Isaiah 9:9)**

▪ **The fear of Yehowah means the hating of bad. *Self-exaltation* and *pride* and the bad way and the perverse mouth I have hated. (Proverbs 8:13)**

▪ **Ascribe strength to God. Over Israel his eminence is and his strength is in the clouds. (Psalms 68:34)**

▪ **Yehowah has sworn by the Superiority of Jacob, Never will I forget all their works. (Amos 8:7)**

- The **Greek** word *kau-kha'o-mai*, meaning, **boast, take pride, exult**, likewise is used in both a good and a bad sense, the usage being determined by the context.
- In order, that **no flesh might boast** in the sight of God. (**1 Corinthians 1:29**)
- If, now, you are a Jew in name and are resting upon Law and taking **pride in God**. (**Romans 2:17**)
- Through whom also we have gained our approach by faith into this undeserved kindness in which we now stand, and let us **exult**, based on hope of the glory of God. (**Romans 5:2**)

.. **Pride Is Deceptive And Destructive**

- The **proud** person may not recognize that he is **proud** and may attribute his actions to other causes in order to avoid facing the fact of his **pride**. Each person should examine himself and his motives thoroughly to determine whether he has this bad trait.
- The apostle Paul shows the need for the right motive, and the knowledge a person should have of himself in this respect, when he says:
 - And if I give all my belongings to feed others, and if I hand over my body, that I may boast, *kau-khe'so-mai*, but do not have love, I am not profited at all. (**1 Corinthians 13:3**)
- **Pride** should therefore be rooted out of ones personality for ones own benefit. More important, it must be done if a person hopes to please God. One must even come to hate it, for God's Word says;
 - The fear of Yehowah means the hating of bad. Self-exaltation and **pride** and the bad way and the perverse mouth I have hated. (**Proverbs 8:13**)
 - The individual who does not get rid of his **pride** will suffer.
 - **Pride** is before a crash, and a **haughty spirit** before stumbling. (**Proverbs 16:18**)
 - And the house of the **self-exalted** ones Yehowah will tear down.

- The house of the **self-exalted** ones Yehowah will tear down, but he will fix the boundary of the widow. (**Proverbs 15:25**)
- There are a number of examples of the crash that **proud** individuals, dynasties, and nations have suffered.
- If, though, despite these things, you will not listen to me, I shall then have to chastise you seven times as much for your sins. (**Leviticus 26:18**)
- And I shall have to break the **pride** of your strength and make your heavens like iron and your earth like copper. (**Leviticus 26:19**)
- However, as soon as he was strong, his heart became haughty even to the point of causing ruin, so that he acted unfaithfully against Yehowah his God and came into the temple of Yehowah to burn incense upon the altar of incense. (**2 Chronicles 26:16**)
- And Babylon, the decoration of kingdoms, the beauty of the **pride** of the Chaldeans, must become as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah. (**Isaiah 13:19**)
- This is what Yehowah has said; In the same way I shall bring to ruin the **pride** of Judah and the abundant pride of Jerusalem. (**Jeremiah 13:9**)
- This is what Yehowah has said; The supporters of Egypt must also fall, and the **pride of its strength** must come down. From Migdol to Syene they will fall in it even by the sword, is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah. (**Ezekiel 30:6**)
- And in Tehaphnehes the day will actually grow dark, when I break there the yoke bars of Egypt. And in her the **pride** of her strength will actually be made to cease. As for her, clouds themselves will cover her, and into captivity her own dependent towns will go. (**Ezekiel 30:18**)
- I shall cause your crowd to fall by the very swords of mighty ones, the tyrants of the nations, all of them, and they will actually despoil the **pride** of Egypt, and all her crowd must be annihilated. (**Ezekiel 32:12**)
- And as for you, his son Belshazzar, you have not humbled your

heart, although you knew all this. ([Daniel 5:22](#))

- But against the Lord of the heavens you exalted yourself, and they brought before you even the vessels of his house, and you yourself and your grandees, your concubines and your secondary wives have been drinking wine from them, and you have praised mere gods of silver and of gold, copper, iron, wood and stone, that are beholding nothing or hearing nothing or knowing nothing, but the God in whose hand your breath is and to whom all your ways belong you have not glorified. ([Daniel 5:23](#))
- In that very night Belshazzar the Chaldean king was killed. ([Daniel 5:30](#))

.. Pride Is Deceptive

- The apostle Paul counsels;
- For if anyone **thinks he is something** when he is nothing, he is deceiving his own mind. ([Galatians 6:3](#))
- The **proud** person seems to be taking the way most beneficial or profitable for him, but he is leaving God out of account.
- The shuddering you caused has deceived you, the presumptuousness of your heart, O you who are residing in the retreats of the crag, holding the height of the hill. Although you build your nest high up just like an eagle, down from there I shall bring you, is the utterance of Yehowah. ([Jeremiah 49:16](#))
- Because you say; I am rich and have acquired riches and do not need anything at all, but you do not know you are miserable and pitiable and poor and blind and naked. ([Revelation 3:17](#))
- The Bible says:
- Better is it to be lowly in spirit with the meek ones than to divide spoil with the **self-exalted** ones. ([Proverbs 16:19](#))

.. Boasting

- The **Greek** verb *kau-kha'o-mai*, **boast**, is used frequently in the sense of **selfish pride**. The Bible shows that no man has any ground for boasting in himself or his accomplishments.

- In the Christian congregation at Corinth, some were puffed up with **pride** in themselves or in other men, bringing about divisions in the congregation. They were thinking in a fleshly way, looking to men instead of to Christ.
- Now I exhort you, brothers, through the name of our Lord Jesus Christ that you should all speak in agreement, and that there should not be divisions among you, but that you may be fitly united in the same mind and in the same line of thought. (**1 Corinthians 1:10**)
- For the disclosure was made to me about you, my brothers, by those of the house of Chloe, that dissensions exist among you. (**1 Corinthians 1:11**)
- What I mean is this, that each one of you says; I belong to Paul, But I to Apollos, But I to Cephas, But I to Christ. (**1 Corinthians 1:12**)
- The Christ exists divided. Paul was not impaled for you, was he? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? (**1 Corinthians 1:13**)
- For you are yet fleshly. For whereas there are jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshly and are you not walking as men do? (**1 Corinthians 3:3**)
- For when one says; I belong to Paul, but another says; I to Apollos, are you not simply men? (**1 Corinthians 3:4**)
- These men were not interested in the congregations spiritual welfare, but they wanted to boast in outward appearances, not really wanting to help fellow Christians develop good hearts before God.
- We are not again recommending ourselves to you, but giving you an inducement for **boasting** in respect to us, that you may have an answer for those who boast over the outward appearance but not over the heart. (**2 Corinthians 5:12**)
- Consequently, the apostle Paul severely reproved the congregation, showing that there was no room for them to be boasting in anyone but Yehowah God and what he had done for them.
- And God chose the ignoble things of the world and the things

looked down upon, the things that are not, that he might bring to nothing the things that are. (1 Corinthians 1:28)

- In order, that no flesh might **boast** in the sight of God. (1 Corinthians 1:29)
- Now, brothers, these things I have transferred so as to apply to myself and Apollos for your good, that in our case you may learn the rule; Do not go beyond the things that are written, in order, that you may not be puffed up individually in favor of the one against the other. (1 Corinthians 4:6)
- For who makes you to differ from another? Indeed, what do you have that you did not receive? If, now, you did indeed receive it, why do you boast as though you did not receive it? (1 Corinthians 4:7)
- The rule was. He that **boasts**, let him **boast in Yehowah**.
- That it may be just as it is written: He that **boasts**, let him **boast in Yehowah**. (1 Corinthians 1:31)
- But he that **boasts**, let him **boast in Yehowah**. (2 Corinthians 10:17)
- Jesus half brother James went even further in condemning those who **boasted** about certain worldly projects they were intending to carry out, telling them;
 - Come, now, you who say; Today or tomorrow we will journey to this city and will spend a year there, and we will engage in business and make profits. (James 4:13)
 - Whereas you do not know what your life will be tomorrow. For you are a mist appearing for a little while and then disappearing. (James 4:14)
 - Instead, you ought to say; If Yehowah wills, we shall live and also do this or that. (James 4:15)
 - But now you take **pride** in your self-assuming brags. All such taking of pride is wicked. (James 4:16)
 - Do not make your **boast** about the next day, for you do not know

what a day will give birth to. (**Proverbs 27:1**)

.. A Good Connotation

- The **Hebrew** word *ga- 'ah*, the **Greek** word *kau-kha'o-mai*, and their related forms are also used in a favorable sense with reference to **pride** or delight that arises from an action or possession. The psalmist spoke of Israel as the pride of Jacob, whom Yehowah has loved.

- He will choose for us our inheritance, the **pride** of Jacob, whom he has loved. (**Psalms 47:4**)

- In a restoration prophecy Isaiah said that the fruitage of the land would be something to be proud of.

- In that day what Yehowah makes sprout will come to be for decoration and for glory, and the fruitage of the land will be something to be proud of and something beautiful for those of Israel who have escaped. (**Isaiah 4:2**)

- The apostle told the Thessalonian congregation that, as a result of their faith, love, and endurance, we ourselves take **pride** in you among the congregations of God.

- We are obligated to give God thanks always for you, brothers, as it is fitting, because your faith is growing exceedingly and the love of each and all of you is increasing one toward the other. (**2 Thessalonians 1:3**)

- As a result we ourselves take **pride** in you among the congregations of God because of your endurance and faith in all your persecutions and the tribulations that you are bearing. (**2 Thessalonians 1:4**)

- Christians are **proud** that Yehowah is their God, that they have come to know him, and that he has recognized them. They follow the principle;

- But let the one bragging about himself brag about himself because of this very thing, the having of insight and the having of knowledge of me, that I am Yehowah, the One exercising loving-kindness, justice and righteousness in the earth, for in these things I do take delight, is the utterance of Yehowah. (**Jeremiah 9:24**)

- **Nevertheless, do not rejoice over this, that the spirits are made subject to you, but rejoice because your names have been inscribed in the heavens. (Luke 10:20)**