

11-20-16
SUNDAY NIGHT MESSAGE
An Example of one of God's Children who fell into pride:

II Chronicles 32:24 In those days Hezekiah was sick to the death, and prayed unto the LORD: and he spake unto him, and he gave him a sign.

II Chronicles 32:25 But Hezekiah rendered not again according to the benefit done unto him; for his heart was lifted up: therefore there was wrath upon him, and upon Judah and Jerusalem.

II Chronicles 32:26 Notwithstanding Hezekiah humbled himself for the pride of his heart, both he and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the wrath of the LORD came not upon them in the days of Hezekiah.

Note:

I. He rendered not according to the benefit done unto him..

God healed him and brought great victory over Sennacherib, the King of Assyria. The Babylonians came lauding him for his great victory and miraculous recovery. Instead of giving God the credit, Hezekiah failed to glorify the Lord and took the credit to himself. THIS EXACTLY FOLLOWS THE PATTERN.

Pride causes us to take credit for the things God has done for us.
We render not back to God the credit that is due Him.

Our pride causes us to forget what God has done for us.
We actually start to think we did it.

II. His heart was lifted up. Hezekiah became self centered.

Isaiah 38:1 In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came unto him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order: for thou shalt die, and not live.

Isaiah 38:2 Then Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall, and prayed unto the LORD,

Isaiah 39:1 At that time Merodach-baladan, the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present to Hezekiah: for he had heard that he had been sick, and was recovered.

Isaiah 39:2 And Hezekiah was glad of them, and shewed them the house of his precious things, the silver, and the gold, and the spices, and the precious ointment, and all the house of his armour, and all that was found in his treasures: there was nothing in his house, nor in all his dominion, that Hezekiah shewed them not.

Isaiah 39:3 Then came Isaiah the prophet unto king Hezekiah, and said unto him, What said these men? and from whence came they unto thee? And Hezekiah said, They are come from a far country unto me, even from Babylon.

Isaiah 39:4 Then said he, What have they seen in thine house? And Hezekiah answered, All that is in mine house have they seen: there is nothing among my treasures that I have not shewed them.

Isaiah 39:5 Then said Isaiah to Hezekiah, Hear the word of the LORD of hosts: Isaiah 39:6 Behold, the days come, that all that is in thine house, and that which thy fathers have laid up in store until this day, shall be carried to Babylon: nothing shall be left, saith the LORD.

Isaiah 39:7 And of thy sons that shall issue from thee, which thou shalt beget, shall they take away; and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.

Isaiah 39:8 Then said Hezekiah to Isaiah, Good is the word of the LORD which thou hast spoken. He said moreover, For there shall be peace and truth in my days.

NOTE HOW HEZEKIAH CAUGHT THE DISEASE. HE BECAME SELF CENTERED BECAUSE OF HIS PRIDE.

AS LONG AS EVERYTHING IS ALL RIGHT IN MY DAYS!!!!

This morning we talked about how people have become self centered and why.
THE BEAT GOES ON.

III. NOTE HEZEKIAH REPENTED OF HIS PRIDE, WHICH AVOIDED THE FULL JUDGMENT OF GOD ON HIM. HOWEVER.. PRIDE IN OUR LIVES WILL OFTEN AFFECT FUTURE GENERATIONS.

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WE SHOULD REPENT OF OUR PRIDE.

LET US HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE GOD.
LET US GIVE HIM THE CREDIT DUE HIS NAME.

IV. OTHERS WHOSE PRIDE BROUGHT THEM TROUBLES.

Uzziah: An example of being discontent with position:

II Chronicles 26:16 But when he was strong, his heart was lifted up to his destruction: for he transgressed against the LORD his God, and went into the temple of the LORD to burn incense upon the altar of incense.

II Chronicles 26:17 And Azariah the priest went in after him, and with him fourscore priests of the LORD, that were valiant men:

II Chronicles 26:18 And they withstood Uzziah the king, and said unto him, It appertaineth not unto thee, Uzziah, to burn incense unto the LORD, but to the priests the sons of Aaron, that are consecrated to burn incense: go out of the sanctuary; for thou hast trespassed; neither shall it be for thine honour from the LORD God.

II Chronicles 26:19 Then Uzziah was wroth, and had a censer in his hand to burn incense: and while he was wroth with the priests, the leprosy even rose up in his forehead before the priests in the house of the LORD, from beside the incense altar.

II Chronicles 26:20 And Azariah the chief priest, and all the priests, looked upon him, and, behold, he was leprous in his forehead, and they thrust him out from thence; yea, himself hasted also to go out, because the LORD had smitten him.

II Chronicles 26:21 And Uzziah the king was a leper unto the day of his death, and dwelt in a several house, being a leper; for he was cut off from the house of the LORD: and Jotham his son was over the king's house, judging the people of the land.

Pride is like leprosy that will destroy you.

V. HOW MANY OTHER KINGS WERE BROUGHT LOW BECAUSE OF THEIR PRIDE?

Nebuchadnezzar was brought low.

Daniel 4:29 At the end of twelve months he walked in the palace of the kingdom of Babylon.

Daniel 4:30 The king spake, and said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty?

Daniel 4:31 While the word was in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee.

God indeed resists and fights against the proud.

We need to be careful of pride and all its subtle nuances.

The devil is quick to accuse us before the throne of God of any sort of pride that may creep into our lives!

God help us to be careful of this subtle sin that comes by way of Satan.