

#1—A Proud Look

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BIG SANDY, Texas—One of my favorite sections of Scripture is Proverbs 6:16-19. The reason is that I can clearly identify seven traits that God hates and seven traits that God loves.

It is important to notice that the devil reflects the seven traits that God hates.

This week, let's look at some verses that mention "a proud look" (verse 17).

The pride of the devil

In the second letter from the apostle Paul to the congregation in Corinth, we see that Paul warned the brethren about evil men. Notice what he called them (in 2 Corinthians 11:13)—false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

The next verse shows us the being that influences people to be filled with pride.

2 Corinthians 11:14—"And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light."

This being reminds me of the description found in Isaiah 14:12-14.

Isaiah 14:12-14—"How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.' "

This being reminds me of the description of the king of Tyre found in Ezekiel 28:12-17.

Ezekiel 28:12-17—"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. 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. You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; you were on the holy mountain of God; you walked back and forth in the midst of fiery

stones. You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, till iniquity was found in you. By the abundance of your trading you became filled with violence within, and you sinned; therefore I cast you as a profane thing out of the mountain of God; and I destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the fiery stones. Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor; I cast you to the ground, I laid you before kings, that they might gaze at you." ' "

Dangerous trait

The Bible warns us in various locations about the consequences of pride. Here are a few.

Proverbs 8:13—"The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; pride and arrogance and the evil way and the perverse mouth I hate."

Proverbs 11:2—"When pride comes, then comes shame; but with the humble is wisdom."

Proverbs 13:10—"By pride comes nothing but strife, but with the well-advised is wisdom."

Proverbs 15:25—"The LORD will destroy the house of the proud, but He will establish the boundary of the widow."

Proverbs 16:5—"Everyone proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD; though they join forces, none will go unpunished."

Proverbs 16:18-19—"Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall. Better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud."

Proverbs 21:4—"A haughty look, a proud heart, and the plowing of the wicked are sin."

Proverbs 21:24—"A proud and haughty man—'Scoffer' is his name; he acts with arrogant pride."

Proverbs 28:25—"He who is of a proud heart stirs up strife, but he who trusts in the LORD will be prospered."

Proverbs 29:23—"A man's pride will bring him low, but the humble in spirit will retain honor."