

Milk & Honey

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Spiritual Food and Encouragement for Believers in the Lord Jesus Christ

The Pride Of Life

W. E. Vine; Matthew Henry; Wm. MacDonald; H. A. Ironside; W. H. Griffith Thomas

“For all that is in the world - the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the *pride of life* - is not of the Father but is of the world.” (1 Jn. 2:16) “The vainglory of life is that ostentatious pride which characterizes the present life of the world in its alienation from God. It signifies either empty display, or haughty reliance on one’s own resources. (W. E. Vine) A vain mind craves all the grandeur, fanfare, and pomp of a vain-glorious life; this is ambition, and thirst after honor and applause. This is, in part, the disease of the ear; it must be flattered with admiration and praise. (Matthew Henry) The pride of life is an unholy ambition for self-display and self-glory. (Wm. MacDonald)

Five Old Testament Examples Of Pride

1. **The Pride Of Lucifer:** “For you have said in your heart: I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; ...I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.” (Isa. 14:13,14) These words cannot apply to any mere mortal man. Lucifer is a created angel of the very highest order. He was, apparently, the greatest of all the angel host and was perfect before God until he fell *through pride*. It was his ambition to take the throne of Deity for himself and become the supreme ruler of the universe. It was the assertion of the creature’s will in opposition to the will of the Creator that brought about his downfall, and so an archangel became the devil! (H. A. Ironside)

2. **The Pride Of Eve.** “For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and *you will be like god*, knowing good and evil. So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree *desirable to make one wise*, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.” (Gen. 3:5,6) The root of sin should be understood. The foundation of all sin lies in man’s desire of self-assertion and his determination to be independent of God. Man does not like to be dependent upon another, and subject to commands of another, and subject to commands from without. He desires to go his own way, to be his own master; and as a consequence he sins, and becomes “lord of himself, that heritage of woe.” (W. H. Griffith Thomas)

3. **The Pride Of Cain.** “And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the Lord. Abel also brought of the first-born of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and his offering, but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain *was very angry*, and his countenance fell.” (Gen. 4:3-5) Cain was very wroth, which presently appeared in his very looks. His sullen churlish countenance, and a down-look, betrayed his passionate resentments. He should have been angry at himself for his own infidelity and hypocrisy, by which he had forfeited God’s acceptance. Cain was unhumiliated; his confidence was within himself; he was like the Pharisee who glorified himself, but was not so much as justified before God. It is a certain sign of an unhumiliated heart to quarrel with those rebukes which we have, by our own sin, brought upon ourselves. (Matthew Henry)

4. **The Pride Of Saul.** “So the women sang as they danced, and said: Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands. Then Saul *was very angry*, and the saying displeased him; and he said, They have ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed only thousands.” (1 Sam. 18:7,8) This mightily displeased Saul and made him envy David. This made him eye David as one he was jealous of and sought advantages against. Proud men cannot endure to hear any praised but themselves, and think all the honor lost that goes by themselves. (Matthew Henry)

5. **The Pride Of Absalom.** “Moreover Absalom would say, Oh, that I were made judge in the land, and everyone who has any suit or cause would come to me; then I would give him justice. And so it was, whenever anyone came near to bow down to him, that he would put out his hand and take him and kiss him. In this manner Absalom acted toward all Israel who came to the king for judgment. So Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel.” (2 Sam. 15:4-6) He had all the pomp and all the pleasure he could wish, lived as great and in as much ease as any man could; yet this will not content

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STW Spring Conference

April 13, 2013

John Gordon & Mark Kolchin

See page 4 for details and directions

Unworthy, Unworthy

Matthew Henry

Introduction: There are two men in a lifeboat; one was picked up after two hours of terrible struggle with the waves, in the most awful mental agony through fear of death. The other was picked off the wreck a few minutes after she struck the reef and hardly had time to feel his danger. Both are in the lifeboat; both are safe, the one as safe as the other. They are saved by the lifeboat. It is not a question of their previous feelings, but simply of their being in the lifeboat. No doubt, the former will have a deeper sense of the value of the lifeboat; but that is a matter of experience and not a question of salvation. There are hardly two cases of conversion alike. Some go through exercises of soul before they come to Christ; others after. It is the Christ I reach and not the way I reach Him, that saves my soul. We believe that all must, sooner or later, learn what the flesh is, and the sooner and the more thoroughly we learn it the better. We have invariably found that those who have gone through the deepest ploughings at the first, make the steadiest and most solid Christians afterwards. But we are saved by Christ and not by experience. (C. H. Mackintosh)

1. **Jacob:** “*I am not worthy* of the least of all the mercies and of all the truth which You have shown Your servant.” (Gen. 32:10) I am not worthy; it is an unusual plea. Self-denial and self-abasement well become us in all our addresses to the throne of grace. Observe how meanly and humbly he speaks of himself, disclaiming all thought of his own merit. The best and greatest of men are utterly unworthy of the least favor from God, and must be ready to own it upon all occasions.

2. **John The Baptist:** “He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals *I not worthy* to carry.” (Matt. 3:11) He sees how mighty Christ is, in comparison with him. He sees how mean he is in comparison with Christ, not worthy to carry his shoes after him! Those whom God puts honor upon, are thereby made very humble and low in their own eyes; willing to be abased, so that Christ may be magnified; to be any thing, to be nothing, so that Christ may be all.

3. **The Roman Centurion:** “Lord, *I am not worthy* that You should come under my roof.” (Matt. 8:8) “Therefore I *did not even think myself worthy* to come to you.” (Lk. 7:7) The centurion was a great man, yet he owned his unworthiness before God. Humble souls are made more humble by Christ’s gracious condescensions to them. The centurion did not think himself worthy to visit Christ, yet Christ thought him worthy to be visited by him; for those that humble themselves shall be exalted.

4. **The Prodigal Son:** “I am *no longer worthy* to be called your son.” (Lk. 15:19) Let us observe what he proposed to say. He would judge and condemn himself...and acknowledge himself to have forfeited all the privileges of the family. He does not deny the relation, but he owns that his father might justly deny the relation, and shut his doors against him. It becomes sinners to acknowledge themselves unworthy to receive any favor from God, and to humble and abase themselves before him.

5. **Simon Peter:** “Depart from me, for *I am a sinful man, O Lord*” (Lk. 5:8)! Not that he feared the weight of the fish would sink him because he was a sinful man, but that he thought himself unworthy of the favor of Christ’s presence in his boat. Those whom Christ designs to admit to the most intimate acquaintance with Him he first makes sensible that they deserve to be set at the greatest distance from Him.

6. **Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ.** “Christ Jesus came into the world to save *sinners, of whom i am chief.*” (1 Tim. 1:15) He made havoc of the church. He was a blasphemer of God, a persecutor of the saints, and injurious to both. Frequently those who are designed for great and eminent services are left to themselves before their conversion, to fall into great wickedness, that the mercy of God may be the more glorified in their remission, and the grace of God in their regeneration. This was a blessed but indeed, a great favor, that so notorious a rebel should find mercy with his prince. Paul was a sinner of the first rank; so he acknowledges himself to have been....The chief of sinners may become the chief of saints.

Conclusion: “If we have sinned, we must be made to feel, to judge, and to confess our sin—to feel it deeply, judge it thoroughly, and confess it fully. It will not do merely to say, in levity, flippancy, or mere formality, ‘I have sinned.’ There must be reality, uprightness, and sincerity. God desires truth in the inward parts.” (C. H. Mackintosh)

Unworthy am I of the grace that He gave,
Unworthy to hold to His hand.
Amazed that a King would reach down to a slave,
This love I cannot understand.
Unworthy, unworthy, a beggar, in bondage alone -
But He made me worthy and now by His grace,
His mercy has made me His own. (Ira F. Stanphill) *

Milk & Honey Information

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him, unless he have power too. He that should himself have been judged to death for murder has the impudence to aim at being a judge of others. Those are commonly most ambitious of preferment that are least fit for it; the best qualified are the most modest and self-diffident. He takes a very bad course for the accomplishing of his wish. Had he humbly petitioned his father to employ him in the administration of justice, and studied to qualify himself for it, no doubt he would have been sure of the next judge's place that fell; but this is too mean a post for his *proud spirit*. (Matthew Henry)

Two New Testament Examples Of Humility

1. **The Humility Of Christ.** "He made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. 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." (Phil. 2:7,8) He emptied Himself. There is a distinct emphasis on "Himself", indicating that the Self-emptying was Christ's own voluntary act. Christ laid aside His glory in the act of taking the form of a servant, becoming in the likeness of men. All that is essentially the characteristic and nature of a servant, all that is real in, and inseparable from, the condition of a servant, is what Christ took. He surrendered Himself entirely in submission to the will of His Father. (W. E. Vine)

2. **The Humility Of Paul.** "And He said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness. Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me." (2 Cor. 12:9) The weaker I am the better opportunity Christ has to manifest Himself in me. May God give each one of us to take that place of subjection to the will of God where we can glory in infirmities. (H. A. Ironside) *

York Bible Study Program

September 2012 - May 2013

Date	Topic	Teacher
March 9	Feasts of Jehovah	Mike Attwood
April 13	Conference - John Gordon, Mark Kolchin Held at North York Bible Chapel (PA)	
May 11	Assembly Fellowship & Assembly Discipline	Keith Keyser
September 14	To Be Announced	

It is better to be divided by truth than to be united by error.

Provided by Stan Engle

Thank You!

Once again the Lord showed His faithfulness in 2012. While the economy continued to suffer, many encouraging gifts were given to STW and commended workers. Over \$108,000 was distributed to over 140 commended workers and widows in North America and to assembly related ministries. It has also been the practice of STW to minister from its general fund to assembly camps and ministries when possible. Over the course of 2012 STW was able to send ministry of \$31,000 to a number of camps and ministries which are involved in the distribution of the Gospel. We want to thank each one who financially supported Spread The Word in 2012. Your gifts have enabled us to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to provide spiritual food for the Lord's people around the world.

In addition to the 80,000 copies of *Milk & Honey* which were sent to over 30 different countries there were many thousands of Gospel tracts, and teaching booklets distributed free-of-charge. Your gifts have also supported the 8th Shepherding Conference held at Greenwood Hills—**next conference 9/19-21/2013**—and the York Bible Study Program, which in its 24th year continues to be well attended each month.

Since we had built up inventory in 2011 printing costs were lower in 2012. Costs in 2013 will no doubt rise as we replenish inventory again. *

Spread The Word, Inc.

2012 Income-Expense Report

Beginning Balance	\$110,987.09
Income	
Suggested –Workers/Widows	\$108,872.43
Tax Deductible Gifts	67,498.08
Other Income	1942.59
Literature/CD Sales	<u>728.70</u>
Total Income	179,041.80
Funds To Workers & Widows	\$108,872.43
Ministry from General Fund	31,000.00
Postage/Shipping	15,138.49
Printing	8,338.43
Bible Study Program	5,959.63
Conference Expenses	5,194.32
Office Supplies & Expenses	2,840.82
Equipment & Software & Misc.	843.16
Advertising (Gospel Outreach)	447.15
Miscellaneous	<u>27.15</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 178,661.58
Net Change	\$380.22
Ending Balance	\$111,367.31

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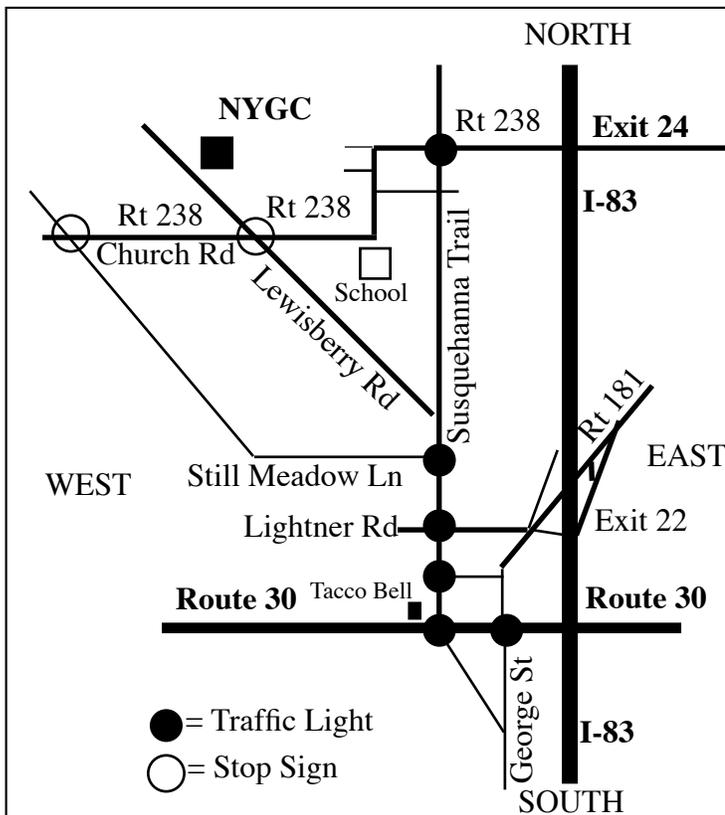


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*Pride goeth before destruction, and
an haughty spirit before a fall.
Proverbs 16:18*

March, 2013



Spread The Word Conference

Saturday, April 13, 2013

North York Gospel Chapel,
2854 Lewisberry Rd
York, Pa 17404

Speakers: John Gordon, Mark Kolchin

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Lunch provided

A count from each assembly would be helpful.

(717) 467-5729

See Map at left for directions

Occupation With Christ

Edward Dennett

Occupation with Christ is, therefore, the Alpha and the Omega of the Christian life; occupation with His death—that death which laid the foundation not only for our own redemption and deliverance, but also of the reconciliation of all things; occupation with Him in incarnation, when, though He were the Son, He learned obedience by the things which He suffered, when, as obedient and dependent Man, He found His meat in doing the Father's will and in finishing His work, and thus glorified God in every detail of that wondrous life; and above all, occupation with Him in glory—the glorified Man—the center of all God's counsels, and the object of all His delight.

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