

Day 10

Proverbs 16:5

5 Everyone proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD; Though they join forces, none will go unpunished.

For Related Study...

- Psalm 10:4
- Psalm 31:23
- Proverbs 6:17
- Proverbs 16:18
- Ecclesiastes 7:8

Thoughts:

Pride could be one of the most prevalent sins expressed by mankind. It is listed among the 7 things that the Lord hates (Proverbs 6:17). And yet, it is something that most (if not all) people struggle with. Pride is perhaps at the heart of all other sins. We are unwilling to let go of what we want, and submit to the will of the Lord. Our pride keeps us from being obedient to God!

Naaman nearly let his pride keep him from being obedient to the instructions of God (2 Kings 5:9-14). Through His prophet, Elisha, God gave Naaman some very simple instructions to follow: Go to the Jordan River, dip 7 times, and your leprosy will be healed. But, Naaman thought that God ought to function in a different manner, a more extravagant manner. God didn't work the way that Naaman wanted Him to work! Because of Naaman's pride, he nearly turned his back on God's healing power. Fortunately for Naaman, he had servants that were more humble, and willing to give God and His methods the benefit of the doubt. Naaman had to leave behind his own prideful thoughts, and submit to what God had told him to do!

The same problem arises far too often today. Men decide that they know better than God, and believe they are the ones who get to decide what God wants, and what God will accept. This is the same pride that Naaman showed! Healing is found only when we lay aside our pride and submit to God's stated will!

Application:

Pride is what causes us to believe that we will be justified by God in the manner that we decide is best. Denominationalism is founded on the idea that there are many different ways to be pleasing to God. However, such pride will never be acceptable to God. He requires that we submit our will to His, just as He has stated it in His revealed word. As our proverb states, "Though they join forces, none will go unpunished." Failure to submit to God's way leads to punishment!