

## GRACE BIBLE CHURCH

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### DOCTRINE OF ARROGANCE

Foremost in this doctrine is the fact that God has a plan for your life. God is perfect, therefore, His plan is perfect. Because of the old sin nature it is impossible for the believer to execute the protocol plan of God (PPOG) for the Church. Therefore, God has provided through His grace policy the means of executing His plan, His purpose, and His will during the Church-age. Contradictions cannot exist in the perfect plan of God. Therefore, anything that contradicts the PPOG hinders the believer from utilizing the grace of God, and thus prevents the believer from glorifying Him in the execution of His plan.

Arrogance is a major contradiction to the PPOG and therefore the primary reason for the believer's failure to execute God's plan, will, and purpose. Arrogance is the basic mental attitude sin. Satan is the first creature guilty of arrogance. Satan's motivation of arrogance is found in this line of Isaiah:

**Isa 14:14, "I will make myself like the Most High God."**

**The original sin of arrogance is amplified in Eze 28:14-17, "You were the Anointed Cherub who guards; I placed you there. You were on the holy mountain of God; you walked among the stones of fire. You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created until unrighteousness was found in you. By the abundance of your slander, they filled your inner life with violence and you sinned. Therefore, I have cast you as defiled from the mountain of God. I have excluded you, O Guardian Cherub, out from the stones of fire. Your right lobe was lifted up because of your beauty. You corrupted your wisdom because of your glamor. I have cast you to the earth. I have placed you before kings that they may see you."**

Arrogance is a lofty self-respect that is totally separated from reality. It is high esteem of oneself from either an imagined or a real superiority. Arrogance is the antithesis of grace, in fact it is total blindness to the grace of God. Arrogance is synonymous with vanity, which is empty pride in regard to one's person, attainments, or possessions coupled with an excessive desire to be noticed, a lust for attention, lust for approval or praise from others.

Arrogance is actually a complex of sins like: jealousy, bitterness, vindictiveness, implacability, revenge motivation, revenge modus operandi, self-pity, conceit, inordinate ambition and competition, slander, gossip, and maligning.

Arrogance includes at least four different concepts:

**Egotism** - This is an excessive pre-occupation with self and must be distinguished from ego, which is self-consciousness and is perfectly normal.

**Vanity** - This is self-admiration and an excessive desire to be admired by others. Hence, vanity is easily flattered and patronized.

**Pride** - This is lofty and arrogant assumption of superiority.

**Conceit** - This is exaggerated estimate of one's abilities and attainments.

Arrogance is the only disease known to mankind which makes everyone sick except the one who has it.

### **Biblical Documentation With Regard to the Sin of Arrogance.**

**Pro 11:2, "When arrogance comes, then come dishonor."**

**Pro 16:18, "Arrogance precedes destruction, and before a fall there is a lifestyle of arrogance."**

**Pro 23:29, "A person's arrogance will bring him low, but a lifestyle of humility will attain honor."**

Rom 12:3 defines arrogance as mental attitude sins. **For I say through the grace which has been given to me to everyone who is among you, stop thinking of self in terms of arrogance beyond what you ought to think, but think in terms of sanity for the purpose of being rational without illusion as God has assigned to each one of us a standard of thinking from doctrine.**

Arrogance is defined in terms of the sin of jealousy in **Jam 3:14-16, But if you have bitter jealousy and inordinate ambition in your right lobe, stop being arrogant, and stop lying against the truth [Bible doctrine]. This pseudo wisdom is not that which comes from above, but is earthly, natural, and demonic. For where jealousy and inordinate ambition exist there is disorder and every evil deed.**

**Pro 13:10, "Through arrogance comes strife, but wisdom is with those who receive instruction."**

**1 Pe 5:5-7, You younger men, likewise, be subject to your elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.**

This verse brings out the principle that if God does not promote you, you are not promoted. God promotes men of doctrine. God promotes humble, grace-oriented persons. Promotion is a matter

of doctrinal inculcation and grace-orientation. Promotion is a matter of glorifying God through the execution of the PPOG for the Church. The promoted believers are the invisible heroes in the Church-age. Occupation with Christ is the ultimate problem solving device regarding arrogance.

**Pro 8:11, “The respect for the Lord is to hate evil, to hate pride and arrogance and the evil way. And I hate a perverted mouth.”**

Nations can become arrogant and therefore will be under divine discipline.

**Lev 26:19, “And I will break down the arrogance of your power. And I will make your sky like iron, and your land like bronze.”**

**Isa 9:8-9, “The Lord sends a message against Jacob and it falls on Israel. And all the people know it, that is, Ephraim and the inhabitants of Samaria, who spoke with pride and arrogance of heart. The bricks have fallen down, but we will rebuild with smooth stones.”**

**Eze 7:10, “Behold, the day is coming. Your doom has gone forth. The rod of discipline has budded because arrogance has blossomed.”**

The rejection of Bible doctrine is always related to arrogance.

**1 Ti 6:3-4, If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not concur with sound doctrine, those doctrines of our Lord Jesus Christ, even doctrines pertaining to godliness [spirituality], he has become arrogant, understanding nothing. Furthermore, he has morbid obsessions about controversies and verbal conflicts from which originate jealousy, discord, evil speculation.**

Arrogance is the corruptor of the soul and the sign that the sin nature is dominating the soul. Arrogance is the basic sin that motivates rejection of Bible doctrine. Therefore, it is destruction to post-salvation epistemological rehabilitation. Arrogance distracts the believer from doctrine. Arrogance divorces the believer from reality, both personal and historical. Arrogance destroys capacity for life, love, and happiness.

Concluding Principles:

- Arrogance rejects authority.
- Arrogance motivates emotional sins such as fear, worry, anxiety, hatred, anger, violence, murder, guilt, self-pity.

Arrogance reproduces itself in jealousy, bitterness, vindictiveness, implacability, revenge motivation and function, inordinate ambition and competition, gossip, slander, maligning, and judging. Arrogance parlayed into self-righteousness produces legalism.

Religious arrogance is trying to change the world through pressure and activism instead of understanding that the world will never get better, and that the purpose of the believer is to witness, to execute the PPOG and to become an invisible hero with invisible impact.

Political arrogance rejects the separation of Church and State. Political arrogance also rejects the separation of free enterprise and the State.

There are many categories of cosmic living:

First of all there is motivational arrogance. All arrogance starts with thought and motivates many into making arrogant decisions. Motivational arrogance by definition is a complex of mental attitude sins based upon the sin of pride. Pride is defined by inordinate self-esteem, conceit and a pre-occupation with self.

Pride also means rejection of authority. Pride means vanity, self-justification, an inflated concept of self, the exaggeration of one's own importance. The complex of mental attitude sins in motivational arrogance includes pride, bitterness, jealousy, hatred, revenge, guilt, fear, worry, and so on. As noted earlier, arrogance, pride, conceit, is the original sin of the greatest genius creature of all time. We call him Satan or the devil, but his original name was son of the morning, Heylel. He was the first creature to enter into this sin. In fact, it is the original sin found in the fallen angels in the pre-historic angelic conflict. It is the one sin that motivated Satan to rebel. It is the one sin that motivated the fallen angels to also rebel. It is the one sin that motivated the woman in the garden to sin.

Remember in the garden the woman became bored with the man. She was looking for an outside interest and her interest was noticed by the most brilliant creature of all. In the conversation that followed Satan convinced the woman that God was unfair and the reason that God said **“Don't eat from the tree”** was because God was afraid. God doesn't want you to be as smart as Him, Satan said in effect to the woman. So the woman was persuaded that this was the answer to improving perfect environment.

The frustration of mankind is always seen in trying to improve his environment. That is looking for a new environment for happiness.

Arrogance promotes an abnormal satisfaction for self-accompanied by a total dissatisfaction with others. There are some people who spend their entire lives comparing themselves with others. They do not have perfect happiness, nor are they content.

Perfect happiness and contentment is one of the most fantastic ways to solve your problems. It is one of the highest goals of internal happiness that any person could ever enjoy. Perfect happiness and contentment can handle any divine institution, any disaster, and any kind of environment. It does not seek a better environment as the solution to the problems of life. It is normal to try and improve one's environment but, it becomes abnormal when you use improved environment for the solutions to the problems of life.

Pride then is not only self-centeredness and conceit, but it is pre-occupation with self, and it divorces the believer from the realities of life. The believer needs, above all else, to face the realities of life head on. Remember there is no solution without confrontation; you must face the problem through Bible doctrine. Bible doctrine causes us to see things as they really are. Arrogance, on the other hand, distorts life and blinds us from reality. Many are so self-centered

that they choose to have their own lust and desires satisfied while ignoring God's highest and best for their life.

So, arrogance divorces us from the realities of life. It blinds us from reality, and that is important in our study of the cosmic system. As we understand the realities of life we can then use Bible doctrine to solve our problems. Arrogance is the basic motivational sin of human life. It is the foundation for all sin, human good, evil and both moral and immoral degeneracy. Arrogant thinking results in irrationality, psychosis, neurosis, and psychopathic behavior.

### **Arrogance produces inconsistency and double mindedness.**

A double minded person is one who in 2Ki 17:33 has respect for God but serves another god instead (money, materialism, success, a relationship etc.). Arrogance produces this type of lifestyle because it is inconsistent, unstable, and can never find reality. Arrogance is easily deceived, is vulnerable to flattery and serves as motivation for inordinate ambition in life. Arrogance emphasizes self over God and people over God as well. God is excluded when arrogance is present.

Inconsistencies in our lifestyles are brought on by arrogance, but the arrogant person doesn't see them. The arrogant person concentrates on himself in disaster and therefore fails to see reality. They also fail to see instability and inconsistency and the impact on others through pre-occupation with self.

### **Pro 16:18 pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit or a lifestyle of arrogance before a fall.**

**Jam 3:14-17, But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth. This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy. And the seed whose fruit is righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.**

In the above verse we see where this thinking or wisdom comes from. This is not the doctrine that comes from above! It is earthly, natural and demonic. It is of the earth, it is of the unspiritual nature and of evil spirits. The wisdom from above teaches us that achievement belongs to God and happiness belongs to the believer.

The wisdom from below produces achievement arrogance, which combines an inordinate pre-occupation with self with an inordinate ambition which is guaranteed to produce a miserable life. Achievement arrogance is a form of blasphemy in the cosmic system of Satan. This motivates the believer to take achievement out of the hands of God and put it in his own hands. Achievement arrogance destroys capacity and happiness and replaces it with competing and comparing.

There are two categories of demonization:

1. Where demons actually invade the body. This can happen only to the unbeliever.
2. The demonization of the soul and personality in which doctrines of demons inculcate the victim. This can happen to either believers or unbelievers.

Demonization of the body is classified as demon possession. Demonization of the soul and personality is classified as demon influence again for believers or unbelievers.

There is also another form of arrogance, motivational arrogance also results from Christian service produced inside the cosmic system. There are many good things that Christians do which are nothing more than wood hay and straw. Every attempt to solve the problems of life apart from Bible doctrine and the omnipotence of God is classified as evil. This includes human good, any form of humanism, regarding man as the center of the universe and a doctrine that states man doesn't need God.

Philanthropy, a desire to help mankind with acts of charity. Socialism, the intrusion of government on private property and human rights. Public welfare, a system designed to cause people to have to thrust in and depend on government for everything.

Some may disagree that these are evil concepts, but that merely proves how successful the cosmic system is in influencing your thinking. We live in a system which is controlled by the evil policies of Satan. Satan's domain is called an evil world, Gal 1:4. His angels are called evil spirits, Luk 7:21; 8:2. His policy is called evil, 1Th 5:22. His administrators are called inventors of evil things, Rom 1:30.

The results of motivational arrogance are a part of the life of a believer involved in the cosmic system: The flaws or the defects that take place in four categories:

- a. Thinking
- b. Motivation
- c. Decisions
- d. Actions

There are two categories of flaws in believers, first, real flaws from lack of virtue promoted by residence in the cosmic system. Second, pseudo flaws which are really personality flaws and do not count as flaws at all. Pseudo flaws are personality expressions that shock the stereo type Christian. They often have nothing to do with carnality or cosmic involvement. It may be a person's flair or poise or style, and it is often mistaken for arrogance and pride.

In fact, in reality Spiritual Self Esteem (SSE) gives the believer a confidence which is classified by the immature believer as pride. Most of the individuals who judge personalities are either legalistic or emotional, jealous creatures.

### **Hang-ups defined as obstacles to normal living.**

Arrogant people have hang-ups. These are manifestations of cosmic involvement in the rich and the poor alike. So it has nothing to do with social status. There are two categories of hang-ups:

1. Ignorant hang-ups resulting from blind arrogance.

## 2. Cognizant hang-ups resulting from arrogance.

Hang-ups are also revealed through syndromes. Syndromes are typical of the believer involved in the cosmic system.

You have the legalistic syndrome which is very popular today among many Christians. You have the guilt syndrome very popular among the emotional crowd. You have the fear syndrome very popular among the insecure and the cowardice crowd. You have the emotional syndrome very popular among the unstable crowd.

There is also the anti-authority syndrome popular among the proud.

The principle is simply, the cosmic system produces arrogance, and arrogance under pressure produces psychopathic behavior. This is a mental disorder characterized by emotional instability, perversity of conduct, envy, arrogance and lack of common sense. Suspicion, lack of self control, lack of truthfulness, lack of persistence.

So, arrogance produces flaws which become hang-ups and the majority of flaws in our lives come from arrogance. Arrogance has so many approaches, so many faces and disguises that often we do not even know when we are arrogant.

Arrogance can result from self-righteousness, Luk 18:11-12

It can result from religious worship, Zep 3:11

It can result from knowledge of doctrine, 1Co 8:1

It can result from inexperience, 1Ti 3:6

And when a believer has a hang-up it is an arrogant obstacle to normal living. Some have hang-ups about their looks, good or bad, their personality, good or bad.

In the cosmic system flaws combine with arrogance to cause hang-ups. Many hang-ups are just simply highly sensitive areas which are vulnerable to forming syndromes. Syndromes related to arrogance result in Christians becoming neurotic or psychotic.

The cosmic system basically works in the area of hypersensitivity. Hypersensitivity activates the flaws in people. When you get hurt for some reason or someone hurt your feelings this can all become an area of hypersensitivity. If hypersensitivity is not checked by divine viewpoint in your soul then it's going to become a flaw, and then a hang-up

These different facets of pride and arrogance will hinder your relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Pride defiles a man, Mar 7:20-22

It hardens the mind, Dan 5:20

It is a hindrance to seeking God, Psa 10:4

It is a characteristic of the devil, 1Ti 3:6

It is of the cosmic system, 1Jo 2:16

It is from false teachers, 1Ti 6:3-4

It is of the wicked, Rom 1:30

Arrogance again, has many forms and that is the purpose of our present study, to identify the many systems and forms of arrogance. There are many areas that trigger arrogance and manifest itself in jealousy, revenge, self pity, guilt, frustration.

Once you are motivated and controlled by arrogance you think, in fact you are convinced, that you don't need any help in running your life! You can do it all by yourself, without people, without the Lord. It is your very own volition which can trigger arrogance from your Old Sin Nature (OSN). You must take responsibility for the function of your own decisions and volition. You do it to yourself, you trigger your own pride, I do it to myself, you do it to yourself, we all do it to ourselves. And, none of us can blame anyone else!

If you feel sorry for yourself you wanted to feel sorry for yourself, if you hate someone you want to hate them. If you are jealous you want to be jealous. You do it all yourself. If you do not take responsibility for your own volition you have taken the first step toward unreality. Now, there are also some very subtle forms of arrogance that distort the Christian way of life, for example: The arrogance of the believer that rejects God's method of eternal security, 1Pe 1:5.

One form of subtle arrogance is when a believer thinks that he can do something to lose his salvation. He rejects the doctrine of Eternal Security and assumes that his sins and failures are greater than God's power (the saving work of Jesus Christ on the Cross).

Now, I don't want you to miss the subtlety of this. If you think that your failures mean loss of salvation you have taken another step toward unreality!

Another form of subtle arrogance is when the believer that assumes that his works are spirituality. If you assume that your works are spiritual you assume that human energy and human ability is greater than the omnipotence of God the H.S. and His power. And you have taken another giant step toward unreality because you have quenched the H.S.

Another form of subtle arrogance is the believer who succumbs to the pressures of suffering, adversity, and injustice. One of the great tests in your life is when you are unjustly treated. There will come a time in your life when you are absolutely right and yet unjustly treated. This is a dangerous spot to be in, to be completely right and unjustly treated.

Then there's the arrogant believer who depends on emotional activity such as rededication services, tongues, inspirational speakers, personal attention, etc. This believer erroneously assumes that his personal feelings and his personal experiences are greater than Bible doctrine.

**The next area of cosmic arrogance is negative volition toward doctrine.**

**1Ti 6:3-4, If anyone advocates a different doctrine and does not agree with sound words, those of our Lord Jesus Christ, and with the doctrine conforming to godliness, 6:4 he is conceited and understands nothing; but he has a morbid interest in controversial questions and disputes about words, out of which arise envy, strife, abusive language, evil suspicions,**

The Greek says he has received arrogance. You see proud individuals are those who reject B.D. at the reception stage by failing to be consistent in the daily exposure to it. Arrogance also rejects B.D. at the retention stage by rejecting doctrine when it is presented as gnosis (knowledge), either willingly or through lack of concentration which means having heard the doctrine, but rejecting it or spitting it out as spiritual food, Pro 20:25.

Arrogance also rejects B.D. at the recall stage by failure to apply met doc to experience. The major distraction of the cosmic system in relationship to the believer concerning the learning of B.D. is pre-occupation with self.

First of all reception of doctrine includes finding the right ministry, or may I say the right pastor/teacher. Someone who is faithful in verse by verse teaching of B.D. or as Isaiah said “line upon line, precept upon precept”.

Reception includes consistent if not daily exposure to Bible teaching, hence it requires the exercise of Positive Volition toward Doctrine (PVTD). This means that doctrine is the #1 priority in life. Reception of doctrine means concentration and the avoidance of distraction.

Secondly, there is retention. Retention is the spiritual function of converting academic doctrine (gnosis) into epignosis or doctrine in the right lobe of the brain where it is ready for application. Only metabolized doctrine provides spiritual growth, spiritual energy and spiritual momentum.

Thirdly, there is recall or the application of doctrine to the different experiences of life.

There are two categories of Negative Volition Toward Doctrine (NVTD) on the part of born again believers:

1) N.V. as a result of pre-occupation with self. The believer resists B.D. on the one hand, or is indifferent to it on the other. All because of arrogant pre-occupation with self. It can be a personality conflict with the Pastor, or a member of the congregation, or simply self-pity. But, it is truly a disaster based upon the fact that you are not antagonistic toward doctrine, but distracted by your own arrogance.

2) Then there is the N.V. because of antagonism toward doctrine. Antagonism toward doctrine is quenching the Spirit. Therefore NVTD can be classified as neglect of doctrine or rejection of doctrine. All of this is because the believer is involved and influenced by Satan’s cosmic system. Arrogance is hostile to any Biblical subject which condemns or exposes the nature of one’s vanity.

Arrogance also resists the communicator of B.D. which is also promoted by the cosmic system. Arrogance can only listen to Bible teaching for the purpose of self-justification or distortion for ones selfish purposes. Arrogance in resisting doctrine is arrogance in rejection of authority.

**1Ti 2:11-12, Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.**

Arrogance in the woman resists B.D. because arrogance rejects authority. The idea of learning in silence applies here in verses 11 & 12 to arrogant women but, the idea equally applies to arrogant men. When it says in vs 11, let the woman learn in silence or quietness, it simply means you cannot learn doctrine and be talking at the same time. Good manners are a sign of thoughtfulness of others whereas bad manners, such as talking when someone else is talking, are rude and arrogant.

Then the apostle Paul who is speaking for the Lord says, **I do not permit the woman to teach or to have authority over the man.**

This is related to Satan's temptation appealing to the woman's arrogance. She was dissatisfied with perfect environment and she was dissatisfied with Adam. Satanic propaganda sounded inviting to her.

Arrogance rejects authority and it rejects silence. Silence means no talking, no getting up, looking around or doing anything distracting to the students of the word of God. Arrogance only listens to B.D. to distort it, to ridicule it or to reject it.

Another form of arrogance related to the cosmic system is the arrogance of ignorance. The arrogance of ignorance is the believer living in time without the reception and application of B.D. The arrogance of ignorance corrupts and distorts authority. The arrogance of ignorance rejects power, success, talent, ability and everything else in life that it is jealous of.

The arrogance of ignorance results in:

1) The blackout of the soul, this is when the soul is filled with darkness.

**1Ti 4:1-3, But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons, by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron, men who forbid marriage and advocate abstaining from foods which God has created to be gratefully shared in by those who believe and know the truth.**

2) The scar tissue of the soul, when the soul or the heart becomes hardened.

3) The strong delusion of the soul. Strong delusion is the peak of demon influence where the believer's rejection of reality turns into unreality.

These three characteristics of arrogance explain why so many believers are psychotic, neurotic, and psychopathic. Since a part of God's essence is veracity i.e., truth the opposite of ignorance, He cannot be complicated by ignorance of arrogance.

God's plan, will and purpose for every believer then is related to truth. It is impossible for any believer to worship God and glorify God apart from truth and B.D. While a doctrinal believer can

say I am learning the truth, God says, I am the truth. Truth in the form of B.D. resident in the soul acts as a wall of fire protecting the believer from satanic propaganda!

Being inculcated in the satanic cosmic system the believer's ignorance of truth makes him vulnerable to the cosmic system.

Self-righteous arrogance is developed in the cosmic system. One of the greatest enemies of the born again believer is self-righteousness! Self-righteousness means to be righteous in one's own self-esteem. Our Lord condemns self-righteousness in Mat 23 in His dissertation on self-righteousness,

**Mat 23:13-29, "But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you shut off the kingdom of heaven from people; for you do not enter in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you devour widows' houses, and for a pretense you make long prayers; therefore you will receive greater condemnation.] Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you travel around on sea and land to make one proselyte; and when he becomes one, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves. Woe to you, blind guides, who say, 'Whoever swears by the temple, that is nothing; but whoever swears by the gold of the temple is obligated.' You fools and blind men! Which is more important, the gold or the temple that sanctified the gold? And, Whoever swears by the altar, that is nothing, but whoever swears by the offering on it, he is obligated. You blind men, which is more important, the offering, or the altar that sanctifies the offering? Therefore, whoever swears by the altar, swears both by the altar and by everything on it. And whoever swears by the temple, swears both by the temple and by Him who dwells within it. And whoever swears by heaven, swears both by the throne of God and by Him who sits upon it. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier provisions of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others. You blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel! Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside they are full of robbery and self-indulgence. You blind Pharisee, first clean the inside of the cup and of the dish, so that the outside of it may become clean also. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. So you, too, outwardly appear righteous to men, but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous,"**

Self-righteousness is generally associated with arrogance. Self-righteousness is arrogant reliance on one's own assumed righteousness, i.e., critical and inconsistent with truth. Self-righteousness is the arrogant conviction that one's own righteousness is superior to that of all others. Self-righteousness is the conclusion that one's own righteousness is so great that intolerance of all others is eventually developed resulting in judging, etc.

There are six categories of self-righteous arrogance:

- 1) The arrogance of legalism.
- 2) Personality arrogance.
- 3) The arrogance of morality which eventually leads to moral degeneracy.
- 4) Authority arrogance.
- 5) Crusader arrogance (i.e., cleaning up the devil's world).
- 6) The arrogance of Christian service.

These six categories explain in detail self-righteous arrogance. Arrogant self-righteousness is the motivational arrogance which manifests itself in these six categories. These six categories are another step to the deception of unreality developed in the cosmic system. Once born again believers get actively involved with these systems it will result in mental illness. Such as psychosis, i.e., a mental illness characterized by a loss of contact with reality. Or, paranoia, characterized by delusions of persecution. Paranoia results in excessive or irrational suspiciousness and distrustfulness.

Arrogant self-righteousness produces neurosis resulting in emotional instability, or manic depression, or schizophrenia. We are talking about born again believers here! When a believer has NVTD he divorces himself from reality and results in becoming mentally ill.

Let's begin with the first, the arrogance of legalism. The arrogance of legalism is covered in the book of Galatians and in 6 chapters in the book of Romans. The arrogance of legalism is the vanity developed from human achievement.

Grace = God's achievement.

Legalism = human achievement.

It begins with the fact that born again believers do not understand something...they do not understand the dispensation in which they live, i.e. the Church-age.

They do not understand the uniqueness of the Church-age, nor the divine power available to them, nor the baptism of the Spirit, nor the indwelling of the Trinity in every believer. Failing to understand these things they are like Jews who go back to the Mosaic law. They do not rightly divide the word of truth. They go back to the O.T. and use the morality of Israel as the Christian way of life. The 10 commandments given to Israel were for believers and unbelievers. The Christian way of life goes way beyond the 10 commandments, it is a way of life that demands divine power for its execution. For that reason the Mosaic law is not the Christian way of life.

Sabbath observance is gone and yet Sabbath observance today is a part of arrogant self-righteousness. There are three general categories of legalistic arrogance:

- 1) Salvation by works, i.e, adding to the word of God for eternal life. People throw in the word repentance because they do not understand the Greek, metanoeo which means to change your mind about Christ.

Believing in Jesus Christ is repentance. However, people want to raise their hands, walk an aisle, join a church, be baptized, give money for approbation, repent from all their sin, ask Jesus into their hearts, etc. They want to do all sorts of other things besides believing and learning Bible doctrine. They are not satisfied with the work of Jesus Christ on the Cross. They want to add to

it. Salvation was finished on the Cross when our Lord said “Tetelesti” which means it has been finished with the result that it remains finished forever. Salvation was finished on the Cross and it is blasphemy, as well as arrogance, to try and add some system of works to the efficacious death of the Lord Jesus Christ.

2) Spirituality by works in which people observe certain do’s and don’ts. They go in for certain types of dress, weird activities, and then call it spirituality.

3) There is the legalistic view of blessings from God. These blessings are said to come on the basis of human achievement or self-sacrifice, or morality, or giving, or conforming to the church programs. However, those involved in the arrogance of legalism do not understand the very thing they think they do...i.e., the holiness of God.

The holiness of God is made up of two characteristics, His divine justice, and His divine perfect righteousness. The justice of God the Father imputed our sins to Christ on the Cross for our so great salvation. That same justice of God the Father imputes His own righteousness to us when we believe in Jesus Christ. If we’re going to live with God forever we have to be as good as God is. We must have His perfect Righteousness (+R) and His eternal life. Therefore, the justice of God imputed divine righteousness to each one of us at salvation; this is called the Doctrine of Justification.

The +R has two other purposes.

1) It makes the believer the object of God’s personal love. Now that we have God’s +R imputed, He can love us with personal rather than impersonal love, Mat 7:11.

2) The justice of God sends blessing to the +R of God that is in us. We are alive today and we have certain blessings because the justice of God sends blessings to the righteousness of God that is in us.

**Isa 54:17, “No weapon that is formed against you will prosper; And every tongue that accuses you in judgment you will condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, And their vindication is from Me,” declares the Lord.**

Divine blessings are given to winner and loser believers, and include some fantastic blessings. God has found a way to bless us without compromising any part of His character. If divine blessing depended upon tithing or any thing you do it would be blasphemous. Tithing, by the way, was a straight across the board income tax system in the client nation of Israel. It was not related to spiritual giving in any way. And, believers and unbelievers alike did it.

Tithing is not a way of blessing, but when you are involved with the cosmic system it seems to make a lot of sense. God doesn’t bless you because of anything you do, God blesses you because of who and what He is and because you have His +R. So, those who think God will bless them on the basis of human achievement is another part of the arrogance of legalism. This can also be classified as blind pride in which the vanities of being divorced from B.D. leads to the erroneous

conclusion that, the believer is victorious because of some unique experience or some system of human works.

Self-righteous arrogance serves as motivation while legalism is the function of that pride. Legalism may be defined then as the pompous attitude of the energy of the flesh. Legalism is the blasphemy of Christian works being substituted for the divine provision of grace. Legalism is the ignoring of divine power.

Self-righteous arrogance along with legalism concludes that the plan of God succeeds or fails on the basis of human works rather than upon God's grace. And, remember, grace is God working on our behalf.

Therefore legalism established false standards and measures on the basis of self-righteousness. Legalism also teaches that spiritual success depends upon complying with these false standards. Legalism teaches salvation through keeping the law. This is answered and rejected in the first three chapters of Galatians as well as Romans 3-4.

**Rom 3:20-28, because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin. But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith. For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.**

Legalism teaches that spirituality is keeping the law which is also rejected in the last three chapters of Galatians and in Romans 7-8.

Self-righteous arrogance seeks to impose its standard on others via judging them for not complying. From the arrogance of legalism comes a second type of self-righteousness, a change of personality.

Remember, we are studying the 6 characteristics of self-righteous arrogance:

- 1) The arrogance of legalism
- 2) Personality arrogance
- 3) The arrogance of morality which eventually leads to moral degeneracy
- 4) Authority arrogance
- 5) Crusader arrogance (i.e., cleaning up the devil's world)
- 6) The arrogance of Christian service

The second characteristic of self-righteous arrogance is personality arrogance. Self-righteous arrogance seeks to dominate people, policy and authority. Self-righteous arrogance establishes

standards and then seeks to impose those standards on people, so it produces a domineering personality. Personality arrogance is found in a bully. Also in a person that assumes that he is never wrong and yet we have seen in 1Jo 1:8 that anyone who assumes that he never sins is a liar. Personality arrogance rejects human privacy, human will, and forces erroneous standards on others.

Personality arrogance is never satisfied until those in the periphery are like puppets on a string. They are like the blind leading the blind and both will fall into the ditch. Those involved with personality arrogance give the world an erroneous concept of what Christianity is

Personality arrogance attacks the teaching of B.D. at two points:

- 1) The subject matter of B.D.
- 2) The communicator of B.D., especially the communicators personality.

If the Pastor does not agree with their false concepts then personality arrogance attacks the pastor seeking to discredit him and his ministry.

Next we have the arrogance of morality. Actually there are two categories of morality found in the Bible. True morality, which is based on the laws of divine establishment. True morality is designed for both believers and unbelievers. It is related to responsibility toward the government and toward society. This is a genuine morality and it includes the concept of privacy and freedom. True morality is designed for believers and unbelievers alike as the guardian of human freedom. It is the protector of privacy and freedom in life. It is the basis for providing both evangelism and the right to hear B.D. taught. However, the plan of God for the Church-age produces something higher than morality.

Then, there is pseudo morality which is used by apostate Christians as a substitute for the Christian way of life. Morality is for believers and unbelievers, but morality is not the Christian way of life. Something higher is produced through the grace policy of God and the availability of divine power i.e., virtue.

What's the difference?

Morality is the function of the human race living under the laws of divine establishment. Virtue is the function of the believer who under Eph 5:18 has advanced to spiritual maturity. Christianity does not reject morality, but produces something higher than morality. Remember the principle; anything the unbeliever can do is not the Christian way of life. The unbeliever can be very moral but he is not a Christian and he is not living the Christian way of life.

Morality arrogance then is the ignorant and self-righteous believer substituting human morality for virtue love produced by the ministry of God the H.S. Arrogance from the cosmic system produces believers who think their system of morality pleases God. Morality arrogance promotes the blasphemous, things like salvation by works, spirituality by works, and blessing by works.

The next characteristic of self-righteous arrogance is authority arrogance.

Authority arrogance begins in the home that concentrates on love, rather than training. Many children are leaving the home today without any respect for authority. They are 18 going on 8. They have adult bodies with children's souls. They will suffer under the law of volitional responsibility.

There are two sets of authority that God has established:

First, the laws of divine establishment which include the authority found in the four institutions:

- a) Free will (freedom)
- b) Marriage
- c) Family
- d) Patriotism

Secondly, God has established authority in the Royal Family of God, the word of God and the Pastor teacher in the local church.

Legitimate authority in life is defined as those powers delegated by God to the human race in such categories as husband over wife, parents over children, government over people, management over workers, authority of the police officer, etc.

We have had the greatest constitution the world has ever known but our constitution demands integrity on the part of the people of the country. We no longer have the later, therefore the breakdown of our constitution and our freedom is in full swing.

Arrogance rejects authority especially self-righteous arrogance. There are born again believers who have committed crimes in the realm of civil disobedience, violence, terrorism, slavery, dictatorship, revolution, all manifestations of arrogance.

When self-righteous arrogance rejects authority it results in moral degeneracy. Authority arrogance therefore is the enemy of freedom, privacy, property and even life. Privacy is destroyed through gossip, maligning, and judging; jealousy, bitterness and hatred. Authority arrogance results in the destruction of freedom through crime, drug addiction, violence, and the attempt of self-righteous to super impose their will on all others.

Criminal arrogance.

There are actually two categories of criminals in the world today:

- 1) Unbelievers who are criminals.
- 2) Born again believers who are criminals.

All criminality is acquired through arrogance. No one is born with a genetic tendency toward crime. It is all a matter of arrogance not environment. It's a matter of authority arrogance, of self-righteous arrogance. It's a matter of the arrogance of unhappiness, which is arrogant pre-occupation with self. The criminal lives inside the cosmic system. He is totally pre-occupied with himself and is hyper sensitive about himself and strangely enough is very self-righteous.

The criminal is often filled with self-justification and self-righteousness. He is anti-authority and anti-establishment. Arrogance causes the criminal to fall into inordinate ambition and inordinate competition. The fact of the matter is that the criminal, from his arrogance and pre-occupation with self, is actually involved in a lust pattern from which it is almost impossible to break away from. This is why the word of God demands the use of capital punishment where criminals are concerned.

Sexual lust results in many crimes as well. Crimes such as rape, murder, and various other criminal perversions. Criminals are usually involved with sexual lust, power lust, money lust stimulation lust, cruelty or the desire to hurt and to torture.

Psychopathic arrogance.

Psychopathic arrogance is a volitional drive toward unreality. In the normal person the emotion of the soul is under the domination of the intellect or the mentality. In the normal person the emotional life always blends with the intellectual life. However, in the psychopathic person emotions rule the soul. A psychopathic person is one who has mental disturbances or mental disorders as mentioned in Jam 1:8 and Jam 4:6. Where did these mental disturbances and mental disorders come from? They came from involvement in the cosmic system.

Psychopathic behavior is characterized by emotional instability, perversity of conduct, suspiciousness, conceit, lack of self-control and a lack of common sense. The psychopathic personality likes to surround itself with others who also lack common sense. The psychopathic personality looks for others who live in unreality as well. A society of arrogant people naturally breeds psychopathic personalities, 2Ti 3:1-5.

Psychopathic persons are abnormal persons who find the environment in which they live filled with arrogance therefore the psychopathic personality feels totally at home in an arrogant society. Psychopathic persons are defined as abnormal or extremely sensitive or susceptible to religious emotion. Often where you find the emotional signs and wonders you will also find the psychopathic nuts. Where there is emotional arrogance there are usually tongues, prophecies, signs, wonders and miracles

The psychopathic is taught that emotionalism is normal or emotionalism is spiritual. Spirituality is wrongly defined for these people, so they feel perfectly comfortable in their drive toward unreality! The environment for all of these born again believers who are new psychotics has been provided by believers in the cosmic system.

Typical characteristics of psychopathic believers include the following:

- 1) Imbalance, the absence of biological equilibrium.
- 2) Instability.
- 3) Pre-occupation with self.
- 4) Self-pity and subjectivity.
- 5) Hyper-sensitivity.
- 6) Paranoia.
- 7) Self-righteousness.

Remember, we are talking about born again believers who have become psychopathic. How? Well, the environment for psychopathic behavior has been provided by certain segments of Christianity like the emotional, the signs and wonders crowd, the legalistic fundamentalist, etc. They have provided a tremendous environment of unreality to produce psychopathic behavior.

Once locked in arrogance takes a believer into a psychotic state that believer must rebound (1Jn 1:9) and then humble himself and get on a crash diet of B.D. It is the tendency of those who have provided the environment of unreality through legalism and emotionalism to try and resolve the psychopathic problem with prayer. However prayer is not the answer here! You will never resolve this problem through prayer. Prayer does not reverse the process by which a born again believer has become psychotic.

Prayer was never intended to reverse the whole law of volitional responsibility. You cannot violate the volition of someone else through your prayers. You cannot coerce another, make them well or right with God through prayer. This is the typical prayer of the emotional and legalistic believer who doesn't even understand what prayer is all about. It is only through 1Jon 1:9, Eph 4:23 and a crash diet of B.D. that causes the believer to recover.

There is a very common arrogance found in those involved with the cosmic system. An arrogance that is the cause of murmuring, complaining, frustration, worry, anxiety, self-pity, etc., the arrogance of unhappiness. The influence of the cosmic system upon the believer cannot disappear through prayer! The road to recovery begins with humility, acknowledgement and absorbing and believing Bible doctrine.

The arrogance of unhappiness.

The arrogance of unhappiness may be classified as pre-occupation with self. Pre-occupation with self will destroy any capacity for happiness and frustrate the fulfillment of the divine plan of God.

Involvement in the cosmic system guarantees unhappiness!

Involvement in the cosmic system also promotes erroneous ideas about what constitutes happiness in life. Those involved in the cosmic system think that some girl or some guy can give them happiness. Or they subscribe to the myth that people or pleasant circumstances or prosperity can make them happy.

Arrogant people are unhappy people involved in the cosmic system and therefore miserable. They persist with their erroneous views of what happiness is.

There are four of the problem solving devices in God's plan for your life we need to note here.

**Mat 7:14, "For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it."**

1) To solve immaturity the believer lives in faith-rest, and is not in a rush to get to maturity. Actually the faith-rest drill progresses as the believer progresses spiritually. This was a major problem solving device in the O.T. The O.T. saints looked ahead to the Cross while the N.T. saints look back to the Cross as already being a reality. However, for the believer in Mat 7:14, the faith-rest drill is basically the way of getting started.

In spiritual childhood and adolescence the believer claims the promises of God. In spiritual adulthood the believer applies B.D. to the situations of life because the doctrine has been metabolized into divine energy. Faith-rest allows the believer makes doctrinal decisions and gains control over the situations.

2) Ever since the Church age divine power has been available to every believer. This power was first manifested in the Hypostatic-union. For 33 years of our Lord's life on this earth as the God/man He lived in the power made available to Him by God the Father and God the H.S. When He was on the Cross receiving the imputation of the sins of the world, the worse suffering of all time, the humanity of Christ was able to handle it magnificently. He demonstrated the great principle that the believer with God's perfect happiness and divine perspective on life can endure anything in the world. This power is available for us today.

We have the omnipotence of God the Son Who is controlling history, one day at a time. Our Lord revealed in His humanity that anyone can endure anything in this life. So, what's the problem then? Why is it that most believers are controlled by their circumstances? Why is it that here in God's client nation very few believers can handle the most basic areas of life such as proper decision making, marriage, family, friendships, relationships, etc.?

The problem is that most believers are not living under the divine power of God. They have ignored the most fantastic problem solving devices ever made available to the human race. For example, *agape* love or virtue love as a problem solving device. It all begins with personal love for God. Personal love for God is the problems solving device in relationship to God. This is also where personal happiness begins to take over the believer. Personal love for God also solves the problem with relationships in life.

Impersonal, unconditional love for all mankind is developed from personal love for God. We also have Spritual self-esteem (SSE) and Spritual autonomy (SA) as a result of our personal love for God.

The big enemy to happiness in the Christian life is arrogance. There are three categories of happiness. There is also a counterfeit happiness developed in the cosmic system which is stimulation for a time and often mistaken for true happiness. Satan will minister pseudo happiness to any believer who resides in his cosmic system

Through this arrogance the believer's capacity for happiness is completely destroyed, Psa 126:3-6. Satan has perpetuated a myth on the human race as the ruler of this world. The myth is that people and pleasant circumstances and moments of stimulation can make you happy. As the ruler of this world, Satan has a system for distracting people by making them think that stimulation is

happiness. This is locked in a system that very few people have ever overcome. This is why probably less than 10% of born again believers become winners and ever discover God's perfect happiness! Arrogant pre-occupation with self through involvement in the cosmic system is a guarantee of unhappiness. We must not associate stimulation with happiness. Pseudo happiness is always associated with any form of stimulation, enjoyment, excitement which provides temporary pleasure. Most people whether they are aware of it or not build their life around pleasure goals. They go from one pleasure goal to another pleasure goal and so on. In between each pleasure goal is all the boredom and all the anticipation. For many their happiness comes from the anticipation.

For example, marriage is usually anticipated as a form of happiness for those who are still single. There is the idea that once you get married your troubles are over, or you are completed and fulfilled. But once you get married you discover that marriage is not happiness. In fact, marriage was never designed to give you happiness. Nor is any organization that involves more than one person designed to give happiness, 1Co 7:27-28, 32-33. Happiness does not belong to any divine institution, but to God alone.

Now, you know there are four divine institutions:

- 1) Freedom, free will.
- 2) Marriage.
- 3) Family.
- 4) Nationalism.

Both volition and marriage existed at a time when man lived on earth with a perfect environment and without an OSN! Now, you would think that a perfect man and a perfect woman would go off into the sunset and live happily ever after. But, it didn't turn out that way. The woman became bored with the man, hung around the tree of knowledge of good and evil and took up conversation with the serpent, who at that time was the most beautiful creature in the garden. And, you know the rest of that story. The fact is that under a perfect environment the first marriage was a flop. Marriage cannot make you truly happy. It can be a tremendous blessing. Between two believers marriage is that third witness in the appeal trial of Satan.

The idea that sex is happiness, that marriage is happiness, that stimulation is happiness is all a myth of the cosmic system. But you can't tell young girls and boys that, they won't hear of it. But, once they've been there then they will know happiness doesn't live there. Young girls are stupid, so they look for some young boy with nice hair and muscles. Young boys look for some girl with nice hair and a pretty face to have a good time with in hopes that such stimulation will bring happiness. The young people think that a specific type of person will make them happy. You are not going to find happiness in marriage or in divine institution number 3, the family!

Again, there is nothing wrong with marriage and family, but an arrogant man is not going to have a happy marriage. An arrogant woman, one who looks to the marriage for happiness, is not going to find it. You see, the great enemy of happiness is arrogance. Arrogance is the fruit of the

cosmic system. Any time you look to people or institutions for happiness you have had it. If you think children are going to make you happy you have the wrong idea as to what happiness is!

Any time you bring people into your social life, they do not bring happiness but rather, they challenge it! The real secret to life is to get God's happiness as soon as possible so that in all of your relationships in life you are not arrogant, you do not feel threatened or challenged by anyone or anything.

You are a humble, relaxed person with maximum capacity for happiness. You wake up in the morning and realize that every day presents a great opportunity, whether it's a bad day or a good day. You realize that life is made up of a few pleasant things, followed by a few not so pleasant things, over and over again.

When you realize that life is a challenge to overcome with Bible doctrine. It cannot be done by way of stimulation or sin and no matter what you think will make you happy it isn't going to work.

Arrogance is developed from negative volition toward doctrine and it destroys the potential for happiness because it destroys the capacity for contentment. The arrogant visitor to the local church demands attention, looking for a church which he calls a friendly church. A friendly church is not a church with a friendly personality, every church is made up of individuals with old sin natures and it is inevitable that someone in that church is going to dislike you or you will dislike them. So what!

People who want a friendly church usually don't want doctrine. So they will grab onto any excuse they can find to get out. They want people to be nice to them. Their happiness is having people tell them how wonderful they are when in reality they are not wonderful at all. Your happiness does not depend on your social life in your local assembly! The issue is your personal spiritual life and your intake of B.D. If you are ever going to be happy you are going to have to get doctrine. The sooner the better, there is no other way. A friendly church is not going to make you happy. The church programs are not going to make you happy. Your happiness must come from the doctrine in your soul, which is the basis for your relationship with God. It's so important for you to get B.D. that doctrine is even more important than making friends. Friendship doesn't make you happy. Personal happiness comes only through B.D.

Many things may stimulate you, but they cannot make you happy. Happiness is an individual state of the soul. To exist there first must be the capacity. Personal happiness will not occupy your soul until you reach SSE. So, what keeps a person from reaching SSE? Arrogance! That is why **Rom 12:3 says, For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.**

As God has assigned to each one a standard of thinking from doctrine, that standard of thinking is the capacity for happiness. That standard of thinking is metabolized doctrine in your soul. Perfect happiness is not doing something, but thinking something. It is a system of thought in the

soul and the standard of thinking is B.D. The reason why happiness is a system of thought in the soul... the system of thought is B.D. not pleasure or stimulation. The person with perfect happiness can enjoy pleasure and can enjoy stimulation while still remaining in a state of humility.

A person with perfect happiness can get the most out of life! Happiness therefore is a state of the soul not something people can do for you! Unhappy people seek happiness through the control of their environment which includes the control of persons in their environment, family, friends, loved ones, acquaintances, fellow believers, etc. Many seek to control other by causing guilt complexes to arouse self-pity in their associations. They can even become abusive until they whip others into line. Unhappy people are always seeking to control something or someone in their environment.

A perfect illustration of frustration and pseudo happiness is Satan. Satan is the most miserable creature that has ever existed. He is the most beautiful creature that has ever come from the hand of God, the most successful, a wisest, yet he is miserable. He has maximum power over perhaps millions of angels and people and yet he is unhappy, miserable, frustrated, and bored.

### **The arrogance of criticism or iconoclastic arrogance which is subjective pre-occupation with others.**

It's amazing how many people create a phenomenal amount of misery in their lives through criticism. They judge, condemn, and find faults. Arrogance is always destructive and in relationship to self the destruction is phenomenal. The arrogance of criticism picks up all the problems related to others and merely complicates ones life.

Arrogance is destructive and stupid, and the arrogant person doesn't even realize that he has enough problems without getting involved with others, (Jer 17:5-9). Pre-occupation with others is disastrous. It is the disillusion with regard to people with whom you have contact. The disillusion can be either with people in the public eye or with whom you have contact.

Arrogance in a relationship with someone can create idols. Usually it is excessive admiration for someone whom you place on a pedestal. Arrogance and excessive admiration for a person is a guarantee for a letdown. Arrogance then becomes disenchanted and then seeks to destroy the idol that it has created. It is admiration one day and antagonism the next day.

**Act 28:1-6, When they had been brought safely through, then we found out that the island was called Malta. The natives showed us extraordinary kindness; for because of the rain that had set in and because of the cold, they kindled a fire and received us all. But when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and laid them on the fire, a viper came out because of the heat and fastened itself on his hand. When the natives saw the creature hanging from his hand, they began saying to one another, "Undoubtedly this man is a murderer, and though he has been saved from the sea, justice has not allowed him to live." However he shook the creature off into the fire and suffered no harm. But they were expecting that he**

**was about to swell up or suddenly fall down dead. But after they had waited a long time and had seen nothing unusual happen to him, they changed their minds and began to say that he was a god.**

There is no loyalty, no love, no faithfulness, no humility in the arrogant believer. The arrogance of admiration is one of those steps toward unreality in human relationships. The arrogant believer then, takes an ordinary person and from illusions of one sort or another, creates romantic illusions or illusions of self importance, sexual illusions, or other illusions of power. All of which are destroyed and then the arrogant person in his or her subjectivity attacks! The idol of perfection created by arrogance can be a romantic image, a spiritual image, a beautiful or attractive image, but regardless of what type is lacks reality.

When you truly love someone in a state of humility and a lot of B.D. your love includes their faults. Your eyes are wide open to their failures and to their faults, but it doesn't make a difference. Impersonal love accepts and tolerates people as they are. The arrogance of criticism destroys friendships, romances, marriages, business relationships, spiritual relationships in the local church and so on.

One of the most devastating forms of arrogance is to idolize someone who communicates doctrine. This is very devastating because the person who does always confuses the communication with the communicator. And, when the communicator says something or does something to let you down then you end up rejecting the communication of doctrine. The smart believer accepts the doctrine and ignores the communicator! It is the communication of information (B.D.) that is important. We have had some who have rejected me and therefore ended up rejecting B.D. altogether.

Destruction of a pastor-idol means rejection of B.D. Rejection of that doctrine means rejection of God's plan, purpose, will and policy. This is why the elevating of any spiritual leader can be devastating to your soul. This whole concept can be perfectly described by the phrase, Iconoclastic arrogance.

Iconoclastic arrogance is one reason for a large percentage of apostate believers and a major cause for rejection of doctrine. Occasional disappointments with friends, loved ones, husbands, wives, children, bosses, pastors, coaches, etc. is normal but disenchantment or disillusion with a self-manufactured idol is destructive. And, it will contribute to some form of mental disorder or mental derangement.

The arrogant individual elevates people and then destroys them. We would call him the arrogant iconoclast and he never blames himself for what he has done in creating an idol and destroying it. However, in a state of irrationality he blames the idol for being created by his own fantasies, and then blames the idol for letting him down. Now, what I've just described to you is one of the main problems in interaction among people. Arrogance never takes the responsibility for being arrogant.

Now for the believer the only escape from becoming the villain or the victim is Spiritual Maturity (SM). In SM you don't put others on a pedestal because you don't have a need to. If others try to put you on a pedestal you take yourself right off of it. You don't go along with it. You begin to tolerate all kinds of people and you never get involved to the point of getting disillusioned or disenchanted with anyone. Perfect happiness is a part of how you can do this.

In SSE you never feel threatened by other people. One of the great secrets in life is not to feel threatened in life by anyone who is better than you or superior to you in any area. Your personal love for God should be so great that your toleration point for everything else in life is stronger. Your system of humility and sense of humor, make it possible for you to enjoy life to the maximum.

Once a believer reaches SM he is at the best place for defense against disillusion against disappointment or disenchantment. The mature believer always remembers that God is perfect and people are sinful, Rom 7:18-25. People are sinful, God is to be worshipped and to become the object of our personal love.

### **Rational and Irrational Arrogance.**

Let's note first of all rational arrogance. Rational arrogance is intellectual arrogance. The vanity of giving precedence to human I.Q. over spiritual I.Q. Rational arrogance generally afflicts the born again believer with a superior educational background. Intellectual arrogance compromises doctrine with human viewpoint. Intellectual arrogance contradicts B.D. and glorifies self over God.

Intellectual arrogance is basically the philosophy being taught on our college campuses today. Irrational arrogance is a problem for almost everyone and can be synonymous to emotional arrogance.

Emotional arrogance is the antithesis of rational arrogance. Irrational arrogance uses feelings or emotions as the criteria in life

Normal emotion responds to the thinking of the soul, mind and heart. Emotion is a responder and usually lacks thinking.

Emotional or irrational arrogance has no ability to reason. The ability to reason is lost when the emotion dominates the soul. Therefore emotion has no capabilities of thought. Your emotions or feelings were not designed for thinking. Your emotions were designed for responsive stimulation. Emotions also do not have common sense

When emotional dominates the soul there is no common sense, Emotion has no vocabulary as a tool for mental function. To be able to think you have to have a vocabulary. And emotion has no vocabulary.

So emotion has...

No ability to reason

No thought

No doctrine

No common sense  
No vocabulary

The cosmic believer has three emotional and irrational functions:

- 1) He makes a god out of his emotions, Phi 3:18-19.
- 2) His emotions distract him from residing on Mat 7:14, Rom 16:17-18.
- 3) His emotions hinder the perception of B.D., 2Co 6:11-12.

We begin with the fact then that irrational arrogance makes emotion the criteria of the Christian way of life.

**Phi 3:18-19, For many walk, of whom I often told you, and now tell you even weeping, that they are enemies of the Cross of Christ, whose end is destruction, whose god is their appetite, and whose glory is in their shame, who set their minds on earthly things.**

This is a passage talking about those who possess eternal life through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. This is a passage dealing with believers only. It is not discussing the unbeliever. The issue to the unbeliever is **what think ye of Christ.**

**Phi 3:18 for many** (a reference to cosmic believers only) **walk** (keep walking)

Please notice that many is the majority. In any given generation the majority of believers are on the broad way that leads to destruction.

**for many keep walking, of whom I have told you often and now tell you even weeping.**

The apostle Paul wept over the fact that the Lord Jesus Christ did all the work. He provided divine power for His church, but the church has reverted to human power. Available to every member of the royal family of God is this most fantastic divine power. However, though it is available it is rarely utilized and this caused Paul sadness. That is why Paul was weeping, because he was thinking of how terrible it was in his day (the same is true in our day) that so few believers tap into this divine resource available to each one of us.

Too many are content to live out their lives in a very ordinary way without ever realizing that God has given us greater power than He ever gave to O.T. believers. Yet in verse 18 he says there are believers are the enemies of the Cross of Christ. These are believers who understand that Jesus Christ was their substitute having remained impeccable under the imputation of all sins, never once sinning, all by the power of the H.S.

This same power is available to believers today which is why believers who reject it grieve the H.S. They are functioning under irrational arrogance and they live in Satan's power system rather than in God's. In the cosmic system they murmur and complain about their niche in life. They are enemies of the Cross of Christ and all that the Cross stands for.

Now, the power vested in the humanity of Christ which allowed Him to endure the Cross is the same power available to you and I!

And when He was on the Cross that power allowed Him to resist reacting to the crowd that said, **if you be the Son of God come down from the cross and save yourself and us.** But He did not react, He continued to bear our sins. And all the time that He was bearing billions and billions of sins, He continued to endure because of the divine power He had developed in His life. That same power being available to us!

The believers involved with the cosmic system and the resultant arrogance produced in the cosmic system are the enemies of the Cross. Their lives reflect Satan's power system instead of God's and Satan's policy as the ruler of this world. Everything that led up to the Cross, all the terrible torture our Lord endured because of the divine power made available to Him. He was under seven trials and He was lied about. Everything that was said in those trials was not true. And yet as the scripture says, **as a lamb before the shearer is dumb, He opened not His mouth.**

During those trials violence was permitted contrary to Jewish law as well as perjury. As they were slapping Him as He was blind folded they would say **prophecy who smote you.** Then others came up and punched Him and spit on Him. He stood and took the slaps, the punches, the spit until His face was completely destroyed beyond recognition. And then they hauled what was left to Him to the Romans for a Roman trial. When a man went to the Romans for a Roman trial and he was not a Roman citizen then the Romans would scourge (whip) that man.

So they took the Lord Jesus Christ down to the basement of the jail and there they stripped Him to the waist and whipped him until there was little flesh left on His back. Then He had to carry His Cross through the crowd. By this time, even though He was incredibly strong, He had taken unbelievable abuse. Therefore they finally had to get someone to carry His Cross. Then as they put Him on the cross, this great powerful man not that little scrawny long haired hippie image pictured in art, but that strong powerful man as He hung on the cross the weight of His muscular body tore the bones from their sockets. But He started screaming only when darkness covered the earth and sins had begun to be imputed to Him. Than caused Him the pain that made Him scream out!

Starting with Adam and Eves sins, all the way to yours and mine and all the rest. Every sin was imputed to Him and judged. That is why He screamed out in Mat 27:46. Because He was now suffering the greatest of all agonies. Perfect humanity was taking our place and becoming our substitute in the judgment of all sins. And yet He remained impeccable and did not complain about unfair treatment. He remained perfect while being judged for our sins. Had He not remained perfect during those three hours there would be no salvation.

If He had but one mental attitude sin or expressed one sin of the tongue there would be no salvation. But He remained under the power of God the H.S. while on the Cross.

Now, you might ask how could He be under the power of God the H.S. while being judged for our sins. The answer is simple, it was a part of God's plan for His life to be judged for our sins,

Rev 13:8. Therefore, if He came down from the Cross He would have left God's perfect will for His life. When it was all over He had demonstrated the fact that under the omnipotence of God the H.S. you can bear anything! There is no suffering, disaster, tragedy, heartache, etc. too great for the believer to bear. Plus there is the promise that God never gives us more than we can bear.

We have the same power available to us that our Lord Jesus Christ operated under to endure the Cross. For those who associate emotion with Christianity they are the enemies of the Cross. Could our Lord endure the pain of the Cross by way of the power emotion? No! Christians today use the human power of emotional stimulation as a substitute for divine power. This is a piece of arrogance that is too subtle for most to understand.

What happens to the believers who refuse to repent. These are the believers who go through life living as if they were unbelievers, Phi 3:19.

This is the terrible disaster of the cosmic believer. Most believers are in the cosmic system and will die the sin unto death. When you reject B.D. it is inevitable that you create a vacuum in your soul with which to suck in the doctrines of the world or rather of Satan....the arrogance from the cosmic system.

Then there is the self-righteous arrogance where many believers become terribly legalistic. There are so many forms of arrogance developed in the cosmic system that the cosmic believer is easily deceived. Satan is a master at deceiving believers. He knows their make up, their weaknesses, their frailties, and he has the right form of arrogance to meet their need. The result for the believer involved in the cosmic system is no awareness in life, no humility and no appreciation.

There are believers who will never learn doctrine. There are believers who will never understand doctrine. There are believers who will never understand God's will, plan for their life or policy. They cannot accept the authority of anyone but themselves. They are in locked in arrogance, and inevitably most of those people end up in a psychotic condition. Then there is crusader arrogance which goes with moral degeneracy. This is where believers are always trying to straighten out the devil's world. There are so many forms of arrogance that the cosmic system can use against the believer.

We have also studied:

The Arrogance of Christian Service.

Sexual Arrogance.

Criminal Arrogance.

Psychopathic Arrogance.

Arrogance of Unhappiness.

Arrogance of Emotionalism

### **The arrogance of the client nation of God.**

The USA is God's client nation. However, the only hope, for this country is for at least 10% of believers to become mature believers thereby becoming a part of the pivot.

**Mat 5:13-15, “You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men. You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.”**

The client nation to God is blessed by the pivot of mature believers who are making an invisible historical impact upon their nation.

The true issue of history is the invisible impact of the spiritual life of the individual believer. This was not true before the Church-age.

It was always a matter of great individual leadership. The leadership of Moses, David, Hezekiah, and the other great believers in the past. Now, it’s a matter of individual believers having an impact upon their nation.

God has made the Church-age unique. The blessing and/or cursing of history on any generation depends upon the believers attitude toward B.D. When mature believers decline, the client nation is subject to divine discipline. When a maximum number of believers are living in the cosmic system of Satan, and when the citizens of the client nation reject the laws of divine establishment, the nation will be punished and disciplined by God.

The result of any client nation rejecting the Gospel and B.D. is slavery. Client nation arrogance includes both moral and immoral degeneracy. Client nation arrogance is characterized by social degeneration, economic depression, military disaster, apostasy of born again believers and liberal leadership. This type of arrogance caters to those who think they are part of the privileged groups, and they demand equality at the expense of everyone else’s freedom. Client nation arrogance destroys human freedom and therefore eventually true evangelism. Client nation arrogance finds believers trying to change the nation through force rather than spirituality. The real problem with our nation is that we, the royal family of God have failed in our priesthood and ambassadorship.