

**One-two punch.**

**Scripture: Proverbs 16:18**

**Pride comes before destruction, and an arrogant spirit before a fall.**

**I. Satan's Scheme: Pride**

**A. Underpinnings of Pride**

**1. Deceit of the Devil**

a) Satan sells us on the idea that we can be equal to God (Gen. 3:5)

**2. Delusion of Deceived**

a) We believe we are innately good

b) We believe we are wise

c) We believe we can earn salvation/heaven

**3. Disobedience of the Delusional Deceived**

a) We do what we consider to be right and wise instead of doing what God commands

**B. Unavoidable Consequences of Pride**

**1. Fall**

a) Face the consequences of our sinful choices

(1) Physical, Spiritual, Emotional, Financial

(2) Either in this life or on Judgment Day

b) Brought low/Humbled

(1) This is God's way of revealing our pride so that it can be corrected before it leads to condemnation

**C. Undoing of Pride**

**1. Surrender to the Holy Spirit as he reveals the truth about man from the truth of Scripture**

a) We aren't capable of being like God or equal to God (Isa. 46:5, 9; 45)

(1) We are finite created beings with limitations

b) We aren't innately good (Ecc. 7:20; Rom. 3:10-11)

(1) We are inherently sinful and depraved

(2) We are incapable of doing good apart from God (Rom. 7:18)

c) We aren't wise (Prov. 14:12)

(1) We are able to receive wisdom from God (James 1:5)

d) We aren't able to save ourselves (Rom. 3:20, 28)

(1) We are spiritually poor (Matt. 5:3)

(2) We have access to salvation by God's grace through faith in Jesus (Eph. 2:8-9)

**A couple of weeks ago we saw how fear is rooted in doubting God. Pride is the exact opposite in that it is a delusional overconfidence in ourselves. Both are sinful and both are schemes that Satan likes to use to keep us away from God. His goal is either to halt our salvation or hinder our sanctification. Don't let him continue to use this tactic successfully on you. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal the reality of both your attitude and your actuality.**