

**THEME: SEVEN DEADLY CONTROLLERS**

**TOPIC: WHY DO PEOPLE WALK IN PRIDE?**

**TEXT: ROMANS 8:5-8, 14, JAMES 4:6, PROVERBS 16:5**

### **Introduction**

The first of our consideration for the Seven Deadly Controllars is pride. Today we are going to be exploring ‘**why people walk in pride**’.

Some people have a sense of emptiness unless they lord it over you. It gives them the feeling that they are better, superior and in front of you. Some do it because they are very conscious of the power they have suddenly acquired and have to show that they have jurisdiction over certain people. **1 Samuel 2:7-8**

Some prides really have no reason however, looking carefully what seems as if it has no reason turns out to be a superficial behaviour to hide very deep seated sense of inadequacy. **Psalm 140:5**. The majority of pride is really a front for the inadequacies people have. Oftentimes, the very arrogant do it because it is the best way to deal with things they are not ready to handle about themselves.

### **1. People are proud of their race**

Racial pride has never been a major problem in scriptures. As a matter of fact, people’s colour or race was not used to determine their positions. Moses’ wife was black. Nobody cared. The grandmother of David was black, being a Canaanite. Two of the men who laid hands and commissioned Paul into ministry were blacks – one was Libyan, the other one was said to be from Niger.

Just over three hundred years ago, a German doctor classified the world by colour. That one act has now meant that people are viewed on the basis of their colour.

His classification was carried further by the erroneous teaching of Alexander Charles Darwin which was propounded to support racial pride.

The scriptures cannot be broken. It says all men are equal before God. **Galatians 3:28**

It is interesting how far reaching this racial pride has gone to the extent that it has coloured what we view as Christianity. When the apostles of Christ were drawn, they all had blond hair, whereas one of them was called “The Canaanite” which meant that he was a brown or coloured man. Two of the women who featured in Jesus’ genealogy – Ruth and Rahab were also Canaanites. Racial pride is deadly because it immediately sets one up to feel superior to those who are different from our own colour.

## **2. People are proud of their face**

One of the biggest industries in the world is the cosmetic industry and exactly like that word, it is an attempt to make something to look different from the original.

The Bible is not against taking care of oneself, in being beautiful. God made all things beautiful. **Genesis 1:31**

The pride people have in their race and their face seem interwoven. Thus it has led to some trying to change who they are, what they look like, to look like other people.

**Q:** What is the difference between being confident about your race and face and you being proud?

## **3. People are proud of their grace**

Grace here refers to the talent or ability people have. While one must take good pride in the abilities that are deposited in Him, yet it becomes destructive if the ability becomes our point of self-adulation. The gifts deposited in us must be properly used to bless humanity and possibly bring souls to Christ. **Romans 12:3**

**Q:** How do you express your grace without being proud about it?

## **4. People are proud of their place**

Have you ever met people who are so position conscious? They could never say anything without referring to their position. Those who have negative pride have used such position they occupy to destroy, maim, berate, mistreat, trample or lord it over others. **Philippians 4:12, Luke 18:9-14**

**Q:** What are the practical benefit of being humble?

### **Conclusion – why people walk in pride, you might say.**

People walk in pride simply because they have a large ego. It is vice versa. Pride leads to a big ego and a big ego leads to pride (**Romans 1:30**). Pride leads to a lack of humility or rather humility, when it is absent is the reason why people are proud. **Psalms 31:18**

Pride is because of a sense of self-satisfaction, an attitude that says, “I don’t need anyone, I do not need God, I am happy and enough by myself”, whereas we need one another.

We need other shoulders upon which to climb, other people to challenge our vision or make a demand on our life so that we can be conscious of them and live right. If you are still wondering why people are proud, the bottom line is still the sin of the heart. **James 4:6, 1 Peter 5:5.**