

## Proverbs on Pride & Humility

### Verses

- 3:5,7 – Don't lean on your own understanding/be wise in your own eyes  
6:17 – God *hates* haughty eyes  
8:13 – The fear of God *hates* pride & arrogance  
11:2 – Pride leads to dishonor; humility leads to wisdom  
15:33 – The fear of God leads to wisdom; before honor comes humility  
16:5 – The proud in heart are an *abomination* to God  
16:18 – Pride goes before destruction & a haughty spirit goes before stumbling  
16:19 – Better to be lowly with the humble than divide spoils with the proud  
18:12 – The haughty heart leads to destruction; humility leads to honor  
21:4 – Haughty eyes & proud heart are the lamp of the wicked and sin  
21:24 – “Proud,” “haughty,” and “scoffer” are those who act with insolent pride  
22:4 – The reward of humility & the fear of God are riches, honor & life  
25:6,7 – Don't claim honor before men  
27:1 – Don't boast about tomorrow  
27:2 – Don't praise yourself  
27:21 – Each is tested by the praise accorded him  
28:26 – He who trusts in his own heart is a fool  
29:23 – Pride brings low; a humble spirit obtains honor  
29:25 – The fear of man brings a snare; he who trusts in the Lord will be exalted  
30:32 – If you have foolishly exalted yourself, put your hand on your mouth!  
Humility is also related to seeking counsel, listening to rebuke, warning, etc.

### Key insights

Humility is closely related to the fear of God (8:13; 15:33; 22:4). Revering God and what He says over self and human esteem is key to humility. Pride is related to the fear of man (29:23,25). If I live for human approval, this is a form of pride and will lead to trouble.

Pride is monstrous to God – He hates it (6:17; 8:13), He regards it as an abomination (16:5 – like sexual immorality, child-sacrifice, etc.), and it is (perhaps the essence of) sin (21:4).  
Teach my heart to view my pride this way!

Pride always leads to death: stumbling, destruction and dishonor. Humility always leads to life: wisdom, honor, riches, etc.

Don't be wise in my own eyes (3:7; 28:26) – don't entertain and cultivate a prideful perspective. This includes ungodly comparison, not seeking &/or ignoring counsel, reproof, etc.

Don't boast, or try to get people to praise me (25:6,7; 27:2) . This includes subtle forms: turning the conversation that way, getting it to linger there, etc. If I do this, take radical action to stop it (30:32) because this is fertilizing my prideful heart!

Be very careful how I respond to human praise (27:21). Promptly give God all the credit from the heart. Verbally give the credit somehow to God. Turn away from recalling and rehearsing human praise. Otherwise, pride will creep in and corrupt!

Stay loyal to those who are humble, even if that means short-term difficulty (16:19). Don't be in league with the proud, even though this gains short-term prosperity.