

Recap of 10/6/19 (Esther 5:12-14):

1. "The very core of Haman's hatred for Mordecai was that of his own self-centered and self-consuming pride and ambition" (G. Campbell Morgan). Because of one man who wouldn't honor him, Haman determined to kill not only that man but his entire race. Such is the corrosiveness of pride.
2. The Bible warns of the damaging nature of pride in several places, such as: Proverbs 3:34; James 4:6,7; 1 Peter 5:5-6, basically teaching that God stands in opposition to those who are prideful, but draws near to those who are humble.
3. The dangers of pride are:
 - Pride separates us from God.
 - Pride is generated by Satan (It's the genesis of his fall: Isaiah 14; Ezekiel 28)
 - Pride separates us from others, divides from other people.
 - Pride leads to failure/defeat.
 - Pride robs us of peace. We are always comparing with others, never content.
 - Pride robs us of satisfaction in our accomplishments, always looking for the next accolade or award, or promotion.
 - Pride causes us to see people and situations wrongly/skewed.
4. Writing in the Men's Devotional Bible, the devotional writer address pride: "As men, we all have a problem with pride at different points in our lives. And while its not often that our pride gets us into Haman-like trouble, it still gets in the way of our relationships and damages our reputations as people of humility and integrity."
5. The Compact Guide to the Christian Life gives us a great definition or description of humility. "We all tend to act as though one person in the world (ourselves) should take precedence over all others. **Humility is ceasing to compete for top billing. Humility isn't putting yourself down: it is ceasing to be preoccupied with yourself at all.** A humble person takes a genuine interest in others' needs, feelings, and opinions. He knows God loves and values him, so he doesn't have to prove his value to himself or others (John 13:3-5)."