

## PRIDE HAVING A BAD DAY

WILLIS 10/17/10

1 Kings 19:9-18

Our focus these past several weeks has been breaking down the self imposed barriers that would keep us, the Bride of Jesus Christ from making herself ready. **So far in our studies we have identified and broken the barriers of fear, familiarity, unbelief, hopelessness and bitterness.**

- In some ways we could have just identified the 7 Deadly Sins and spoke of them as barriers. Though lust, laziness, greed, gluttony, envy, anger and pride have not yet been mentioned, all that they give birth to have.
- Though pride is not the focus of our time today, what pride reproduces is. Our barrier to be broken today is self pity. **Self pity is pride having a bad day.**
- Self pity is a self sin like self righteousness, self sufficiency, and self love. **Self sins are a veil of blindness that hide the face of God and enthrone self as the center of man's existence.**

Please note in Elijah's experience with this gate of hell, the Lord neither rebuked him for his self pity nor did he acknowledge it so as to validate it. Self pity is a spiritual power that demands the attention of self and all those who come in contact with self.

- Self pity is a spiritual "black hole" that your pour in time, attention, victories and promises.
- Consequently, **Elijah's self pity was completely ignored by the Lord as if to say self pity has zero value...it is not valuable enough to be rebuked and it most definitely does not have enough value to be affirmed.**

Judges 6:11—14

Now we see Gideon immobilized by this same gate of hell called self pity. Interesting enough, the Lord's response to Gideon was the same as it was with Elijah, God ignored the question motivated by self pity and answered with a command, "Go in this your strength..."

- Self Pity is an emotion ignored by God. We all know what it means to be loved by God or affirmed by God...if you ever want to know how it feels to be ignored by God try self pity.
- Oswald Chambers said, **"No sin is worse than the sin of self pity for it obliterates God and puts self on the throne."**
- Self pity is the strongest evidence of a soul completely misdirected from the plan, purpose and will of God.

- Self pity is the refusal of God in exchange for a twisted form of self love. If familiarity breeds contempt; self pity is what matures it.

**Self pity is defined as, “A contemptuous sorrow for self.” Self pity is consuming on self an emotion designed only to be shared with others.** “Pity da fool” is a good thing; pity is a God given emotion reserved only for others. Self pity however “makes ya da fool.”

- Pity is a God given virtue. Self pity is a perversion that turns a virtue into a vice.
- Self pity is living stuck in the why’s of life blinded to the what’s.
- Self pity is what you get when you choose to live in an entitlement cycle...**those who live entitled live feeling sorry for themselves because no one can meet the demands of self.**

There are 3 Primary sources of self pity:

1. **Resentment Toward God and Others:** In the face of perceived wrongdoing you either forgive or you become prey to self pity.
2. **Ungratefulness:** “Gratefulness is the blow torch of oppression.” (Marcy Willis) To live a life of ungratefulness is to live a life feeling sorry for self.
3. **Self Sins:** It is impossible to satisfy someone focused on self. Self pity is the inheritance of a soul satiated in self.

How do we overcome self pity?

1. **We Learn to Command our Souls: Ps42:5** Personal agreement is the legal power of self pity. Without personal agreement self pity has no authority to erect a gate of hell in our lives.
  - **To command our soul is to humble ourselves in submission to God’s will.** To humble ourselves is to say “I find no fault with you Lord, no fault with your ways.”
  - To command our souls is to take authority over self and every expression of self sin.
2. **We Learn to Live by Principle not Feeling: Rom8:14** The son’s and daughter’s of God are those led by the Spirit of God not by emotion or unbridled feelings. The soul of man is designed by God to be a responder not a leader.
  - A Spirit led soul responds whereas an emotionally led soul reacts.
  - **In and of themselves, emotions have no capacity from God to rule or initiate. Emotions are void of truth, authority or reason, they only have the capacity to respond or react.**
  - Consequently emotions are not fit to rule or lead our lives. When they do we give opportunity for self pity to take the throne. **Principles ordered by the truth of God’s Word are the authorized manner of overcoming self pity.**

3. **We Learn to Starve Self Pity Out: Ep4:27** Like any spirit or power self pity needs a source. Cut off its source and you starve self pity away. Self pity feeds on entitlement, isolation, weariness, pride, self absorption and every other self sin.
- You starve self pity through forgiveness. **Self pity is the inborn consequence of taking hold of someone else's sin.** Unforgiveness is the food upon which self pity exists. When we choose to forgive we choose to starve self pity.
  - **To starve self pity we must learn to live unentitled.** How easy it is to have an entitled marriage, raise entitled children, become an entitled Church...**The Way of the Cross is God's way out of entitled living.**
  - We starve self pity as we learn to say no to self and yes to the way of the Lord.

Like any other gate of hell, self pity has no legal authority to prevail against us. With the keys of the Kingdom in hand at our agreement self pity must come down. Self pity is a liar; self pity has nothing to offer you even though it promises much.

- Disagree with its promise and this gate as well will not prevail against you.