

Shining a Light on the Heart: Pride in Isaiah 2-4

CY Winter Retreat, 2021-2022

Lecture 1: The Problem Is Pride

Definitions – Pride, shame and humility (Proverbs 11:2).

Isaiah 2:1-5 – A vision of the future that motivates the present.

Isaiah 2:6-22 – God abandons and condemns proud people.

Lecture 1 Discussion Questions

1. Define pride, shame, and humility in your own words. Share some ideas about how we might distinguish between shame and humility in everyday life.
2. Share your thoughts about Isaiah 2:1-5. What stood out to you? What additional questions do you have about this passage?
3. Isaiah 2:6-9 addresses idolatry. Define idolatry in your own words.
4. Idols can reach us through fear, affection, satisfaction, and obedience. Using these categories as a guide, what do you think are some of the idols that people your age are typically tempted by? Why?
5. What is the main idea of Isaiah 2:10-22? How does the command to “stop” in verse 22 relate to the command to “walk” in verse 5?
6. Share any other thoughts or questions that you have.

Lecture 2: The Problems with Pride

Definitions – masculinity and femininity.

Isaiah 3:1-15 – proud men and society.

Isaiah 3:16-4:1 – proud women and society.

Lecture 2 Discussion Questions

1. Do you think that “strength” and “beauty” are helpful generalizations for describing men and women? What would you want to add to the description? How might you want to nuance it?
2. Where do you see pride and shame the most in other men or women your age? How does the gospel speak to these particular situations? (Men answer for men, women for women.)
3. Discuss the state of American culture. Where do you see pride? How should a godly man or woman participate in our culture? In what areas should he or she separate from it? In what ways might he or she seek to change it? (Men answer for men, women for women.)
4. Our applications of Isaiah’s teaching must involve our relationships with one another. What are appropriate ways for men to support men, for women to support women, for men to support women, and for women to support men, as we seek together to live godly lives?
5. One of the most important ways that we learn humility is by following role models. Name some people who you think are good examples in this area. What is it about their life that made you choose them? How can you imitate them?
6. Share any other thoughts or questions that you have.

Lecture 3: Something to Be Proud Of

Jesus is our _____ and _____ .

Jesus is our _____ .

Jesus is our _____ .

Jesus is our _____ and _____ .

Jesus is our _____ .

Jesus is our _____ .

Lecture 3 Personal Reflection Questions

1. Consider each of the points from this lecture, one at a time. How do these truths about Jesus address the sins and weaknesses that you see in yourself?
2. What are some of your main takeaways from this study of Isaiah chapters 2-4? Do you see any specific applications to your life?
3. If you desire to change in some way, consider sharing that with an older believer you trust for counsel and encouragement. This is one of the most practical ways that you can seek to walk in the light!