

A grayscale photograph of a person's hands clasped together over an open book. The person is wearing a long-sleeved sweater. The book is open, and the text on the pages is visible but slightly blurred. Overlaid on the image is the word 'PROVERBS' in large, bold, yellow, sans-serif capital letters. Below it, the phrase 'Wisdom for Living' is written in a white, cursive script font. At the bottom of the image, there are several horizontal, wavy, semi-transparent white bands.

PROVERBS

Wisdom for Living

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Pride is the ground in which all the other sins grow, and the parent from which all the other sins come.

... ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: “ ‘You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.

Ezekiel 28:11–17 (NIV)

You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone adorned you... Your settings and mountings were made of gold; on the day you were created they were prepared.

You were anointed as a guardian cherub, for so I ordained you. You were on the holy mount of God; you walked among the fiery stones. You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you.

Ezekiel 28:11-17 (NIV)



Through your widespread trade you were filled with violence, and you sinned. So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God, and I expelled you, guardian cherub, from among the fiery stones.

Ezekiel 28:11-17 (NIV)

Your heart became proud on account of your beauty,
and you corrupted your wisdom because of your
splendor. So I threw you to the earth; I made a
spectacle of you before kings.

Ezekiel 28:11-17 (NIV)

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Satan took gifts God had given him and said look at me
instead of saying look at God.

For who makes you different from anyone else?

What do you have that you did not receive?

And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not?

1 Corinthians 4:7 (NIV)

But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.

“For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and **you will be like God**, knowing good and evil.”

though I myself have reasons for such confidence...
But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for
the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything
a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing
Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all
things.

I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith.

Philippians 3:4–9 (NIV)

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

How you have fallen from heaven, morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations! You said in your heart, “I will ascend to the heavens; I will raise my throne above the stars of God;

I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the
utmost heights of Mount Zaphon. I will ascend above
the tops of the clouds;

I will make myself like the Most High.”

everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.”

A grayscale image of a person's hands holding an open book, with the word 'PROVERBS' overlaid in large, bold, yellow capital letters. The background is a dark, textured surface.

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❖ God actively opposes pride

... All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because,

“God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.”

The Lord tears down the house of the proud, but he sets the widow's boundary stones in place.

The Lord detests all the proud of heart.

Be sure of this: They will not go unpunished.

There are six things the Lord hates, seven that are detestable to him: **haughty eyes**, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, a false witness who pours out lies and a person who stirs up conflict in the community.

those whose eyes are ever so haughty, whose glances
are so disdainful;

“I, wisdom, dwell together with prudence; I possess knowledge and discretion. To fear the Lord is to hate evil; I hate pride and arrogance, evil behavior and perverse speech.

Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and **the pride of life**—comes not from the Father but from the world.

Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying
each other.

Galatians 5:22–26 (NIV)

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, **it is not proud.**

1 Corinthians 13:4 (NIV)

When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with
humility comes wisdom.

Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.

Better to be lowly in spirit along with the oppressed
than to share plunder with the proud.



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- God actively opposes pride

❖ **Pride robs you of experiencing God**

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The greatest barrier between some Christians and God's omnipotent power is their own supposed strength.

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A proud man is always looking down on things and people; and, of course, as long as you're looking down, you can't see something that's above you.

C.S. Lewis



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- God actively opposes pride
- Pride robs you of experiencing God

❖ God rewards humility

Pride brings a person low, but the lowly in spirit gain honor.

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you
up.

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

... God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him.



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- God actively opposes pride
- Pride robs you of experiencing God
- God rewards humility

❖ Jesus showed us what humility looks like

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.

Philippians 2:1-11 (NIV)

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit.
Rather, **in humility value others above yourselves,**

Philippians 2:1–11 (NIV)

not looking to your own interests but each of you to
the interests of the others.

Philippians 2:1-11 (NIV)

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, **he made himself nothing** by taking the very nature of **a servant**, being made in human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a man, **he humbled himself** by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!

Philippians 2:1–11 (NIV)

In his pride the wicked man does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God.

For it is not the one who commends himself who is approved, but the one whom the Lord commends.

The arrogance of man will be brought low and human
pride humbled; the Lord alone will be exalted in that
day,

Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. Because of what law? The law that requires works? No, because of the law that requires faith.

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- Pride robs you of experiencing God
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