

**FORTY MANIFESTATIONS
OF THE MASTER
CHARACTER PRIDE**

ROYAL D. CRONQUIST

The Lord has given me forty descriptive manifestations of spiritual pride that I am going to share with you. I was awakened at 2:20 in the morning and the Spirit of the Lord was upon me and the anointing. He began to reveal these things to me.

The spirit of pride is the master nature of Satan himself. It says in 2 Corinthians 11:13 (NASV): *For such men are false apostles* (false prophets, false evangelists, false pastors, false leaders, false Christians) *disguising themselves as Apostles of Christ*. And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. Therefore it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness.

Anytime you have some critical remark to make about a leader - behind that ability to criticise is probably a spirit of pride. Contention comes by pride. Contention is arguments or criticisms. A critical heart or mouth or thinking comes by pride.

Pride always disguises itself with Holy Spirit manifestations of discerning of spirits, the word of knowledge, and the word of wisdom.

Pride always assures or convinces the person who has it that their leadings of the Holy Spirit are more correct and superior than anyone else's - that other's leadings are less adequate or that other's leadings are not even God's Spirit at all.

Pride also deceitfully covers its vessels in fears, in insecurities or inadequacies that are beneath the surface of the conscious mind.

Pride never acknowledges God's Spirit leadings in anyone else to the same degree as their own personal hearing. It always knows that God's leadings in the individual are superior and secretly demands all others give consent or approval to that leading - without first submitting it to the safety of others confirmation or solicitation.

Pride never lets others be their coequal. In blindness, it always talks down to others in their confirmations and their perceptions. In Long Island Naval Air Station I worked in a building with 275 people. I worked with a foreman and he would say, "Royal, you are the only Christian that I have ever seen." I said, "Why do you say that?" You can imagine how ego would grab that. He said, "Probably 90 or 95% of all these people in the building will say that they are Christians. But you are the only one in my opinion that seems to be." I said, "Why do you say that?" He said, "I have been watching you like a hawk and you live your words." Now isn't that amazing. Man I am really great. I can remember the first time that I manifested the gift of tongues. Pride came in on me and it was three months before I got rid of it.

People are coming around me all the time and bragging about what a great ministry I am. I am getting firm to stop that nonsense, because pride goes before a fall. All the men and women in the ministry who have fallen, have fallen because of adulation and the exaltation of the sheep that receive benefit by the word or by the gift from them. It is one thing to give an elder double honour. It is one thing to respect a ministry. But the hairline of difference is adulation that will sow pride in their own being.

Pride always aligns itself with the Holy Spirit's manifestations of intelligence, power and authority. Secretly and self-deceitfully it takes the credit of God's glory in self-

unperceived degrees. Pride always blinds and clouds it's users to it's combination of truth and correctness that is coming out of their mouths.

The power of pride and it's deception is most unapparent with the one in whom it resides. That is why it has a terrible deception power about it. I have come to people and ministries and I say as gentle as I can, "I believe you are deceived." Boy, sometimes it is open retaliation and defense. That very reaction is evidence that I have stirred up that power or spirit in them. Anytime somebody says that to you and you retaliate negatively, it is absolute evidence you have devil in you. You need deliverance from it. Pride never allows a person within whom it works to perceive it.

Pride is the spirit who ultimately causes all divisions, dissensions, isolations, rejections and invalid separations between leaders and other relationships. The happens in many forms and many devious degrees along with the principalities and powers working in your life. Pride is the master spirit behind all disguises, all deceit and all deception. It always wins apart from the perfection of the Son of God reduplicated within your experience. Pride, along with the other master spirits, has not allowed believing man in all generation to literally attain to completion in Christ Jesus in His glory and His unity with the Father.

Pride never interferes with God's Spirit manifestation within believing mankind but secretly assumes the glory in their imperfect, unsanctified parts in varying degrees. It always enables the one who is it's possessor to be superior and independently self-justified and is always offended whether the offence is valid or invalid.

In the knowledgeable and spirit gifted, pride is so near like the Godhead, in disguise, in lying deceit, in counterfeit, that it has never been wholly identified and repented of by anyone in whom it resides since the fall or since the cross.

Pride will never accept others wholeheartedly as equals in the Son of God's life. Nor will it allow superior enlightenment to be acknowledged gracefully in multitudes of deceiving ways. I remember asking this foreman, I was telling you about, why he believed that I lived the other way. He said, "You are the only Christian That I have ever met who doesn't make me fell 'talked down to' when you're sharing Jesus." I thought that was a profound thing coming from an unbeliever. Pride in leadership will always talk down to others. I asked the young man I was travelling with the other day, "Do you ever feel that I make you something inferior to my life?" His answer was that he never felt inferior to me. I don't know how I have learned that. It must have been Jesus, because pride always wants to be superior. It always wants to have the last say. It always wants to be the winner of every conflict.

Pride will always fulfil James 3:13-16. *Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behaviour his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom. But if you have BITTER JEALOUSY and SELFISH AMBITION in your heart, do not be ARROGANT and so LIE against the truth. This wisdom is not which comes down from above, but is EARTHLY, NATURAL (unspiritual), DEMONIC. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is DISORDER and EVERY EVIL thing.*

Pride will always fulfil unrighteousness in disguise quoting scriptures or biblical precepts, twisting and distorting it's deceit as valid for it's justification. Pride in the position of authority always dominates. It presumes self priority before and above all others. It controls and manipulates others in scriptural exactness. It's forcefulness is conditional upon how deeply it's inroads have co-mingled with the heart. Even in corporate ministry (divine order) pride's views are secretly supreme. All others are relegated to an inferior acceptance.

These things I am describing to you will not be discernible by reason. You can only discern this spirit by a manifestation of discerning of spirits. Even when others are beginning to be led by the Spirit, pride secretly relegates others' leadings as inconsequential. But God's Spirit is not limited by one's personal leadings but by everyone's unity of spirit and their obedience within that unity.

Pride in scriptural knowledge can be highly refined and deceitfully skilful in being critical either correctly or pervertedly.

Pride can not graciously be disagreed with or challenged in rest. It can see "the beams" (the faults) in others but is blind to the beams and faults in itself. The scripture says, "*Every man is right in his own eyes.*" In all your conflict you act or react or retaliate because in your own eyes you are correct. Pride does not and can not know true submission in rest and trust.

Pride always works with fear. It creates it within others so it will not be exposed or offended. Let me explain that. A lot of people are afraid of me. It could be pride in me creating that fear in you. It could be a lying spirit in you that does not originate in me. Whenever I go to leaders that have pride, I am scared stiff. Because a lying spirit of fear will make me so fearful I will never be courageous enough to approach them.

So you understand that? So then I have the snare of the fear of man. To rise out of the snare of the fear of man takes a relationship with Jesus Christ that does not fear the consequences.

Pride is never genuinely teachable, especially when challenged or disagreed with. It can not be corrected easily but will always find reasons to retaliate and counter charge.

Pride only receives graciously those who feed it's nature. This is why when you start exalting a preacher you birth an occasion for pride to come in. She or he may then begin to solicit it. The people that feed it the most are the ones that are going to have the greatest favour from the leader. Wow! I want you to understand I am primarily talking about leaders. But all these things exist in the sheep in the same way.

Pride is generally refined in the aggressive, in the intelligent, in the strong spirited, and in the string willed; who do the word correctly. Pride will cause success in every endeavour of life when it is aggressive and mixed with intelligence, knowledge and wisdom. But when mixed with righteousness, it is death - hindering true humility and meekness. The scripture says the meek shall inherit the earth. Any negative thought or feeling in your life is insuring that you are not going to be an inheritor of the earth. You can examine whether an attitude or feeling is God or not, almost instantly. Ask

yourself, “Is this thought glorifying God? Is this feeling glorifying God? Would Jesus do this?” Your conscience gives you the answer so fast. There is a way you could increase your leading of God’s Spirit in all your attitudes, motives, actions, reactions and initiative by about 98% - if you question your heart in everything you endeavour to do. When in doubt you had better put it into the suspect file.

In spiritual matters pride always looks for acceptance in self-deceit from others, never finding rest in the fruit of the spirit when not honoured. As long as pride is being fed in it’s nature by deceived self or by others; it will never be perceived by the one in whom it resides.

Pride will never allow others to truly be it’s exposure, nor it’s checks or balances or restraints. Pride will always have the last say and the most to say. It will have the most prominent part of speaking either openly or secretly or inwardly. Everyone and everything has to take an inferior place or position to it. Pride is wise deceit. Pride in wise deceit manipulates, controls or invariably finds secret or open justification in all of it’s judgements. In ALL your relationships that are negative there is self pity along with pride.

PRIDE HAS BEEN THROUGH ALL CENTURIES THE MASTER OF DISGRACE TO THE HOLY SPIRIT. Let me state that again. Pride has been through all centuries the master of disgrace to the Holy Spirit in a variety of forms. Hebrews 10:26, *“For if we go on sinning wilfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain, terrifying expectation of judgement.”*

Believers in grace do not believe that. They believe grace covers their negative reaction. In fact you hear them quote, *“All have sinned and come short of the glory of God.”* So that justifies them to fall short of it, consciously or unconsciously. *“But a certain, terrifying expectation of judgement, and the fury of a fire which will consume the adversaries. Anyone who has set aside the Law of Moses dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses.”* Now listen to this! *“How much more severe punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of Grace?”*

There is no fear of God in the Church. There is a movement that says we are the righteousness of God because they are taught not to be sin conscious but righteousness conscious. Righteousness consciousness is not valid if it is not experientially the power of Jesus Christ to perform it as perfectly as He is. You do not confess your way to it. You get it through intimacy with Him in spirit. Hallelujah. Verse 29, *“... have insulted the Spirit of grace.”* Grace covers a multitude of sins. Shall we sin that grace may abound? God forbid! God forbid! But because we know that grace is present, we go ahead and sin. We do not take of it in the finality of confession and repentance.

What is the answer to all this? The cross of adversity in valid and non-valid humiliation until there is the state of rest, within all circumstances. In all your relationships that are less than the state of the fruit of the spirit, God is either allowing or commissioning it so it gets up to the surface. So that you will come to Jesus

confessing it as sin and asking for forgiveness. But people are not generally that committed. They withdraw and never actually get confession out, "I've sinned."

This last week in a couple of things I blew it. I really committed a reactionary sin without forethought. I fell from the place my idolising believers held me in. That was the greatest thing that could have happened to me. But even though I fell from that place - I openly humbled myself, confessed my sin before all and repented before all.

If you commit a sin between husband and wife, you are both guilty. If no one else is present then you should humble yourselves and confess and repent to each other. If you have committed your sin before your children, then your sin is not only to each other but also to your children. So then your humbling yourself and repenting is to be before husband and wife and children. If you are among five to ten people and you commit a sin toward someone by action, reaction or motivation that becomes apparent, your sin is not to the person alone. Your sin is to everybody that is close. So your humbling yourself in humiliation has to be openly confessed and repented to all that were present. Does that make sense? That really is hard on pride. Wherever you find an inability to humble yourself in the slightest fault, that is pride ruling in your life. If you find yourself unable to humble yourself, pride is god in your life. Wow!

Just how do we attain to this kind of perfection? I can not give you all the answers in this teaching. But number one - by daily taking up the cross, denying and losing your self-life, (Luke 9:23). Number two - by soliciting your discerning brethren to expose pride in you. I am not asking you to knit pick and strain gnats. I never look for sin in anybody. When it shows up, it is a surprise.

This is a discipline that I have. I am aggressively looking to find any strain of something other than love in my relationships. I will race to be the first to repent. I am committed to work more at repentance than ever being right or ever winning at a relationship. Jesus appeared to me five or six years ago and said, "My son you no longer have a right to be right in anything." Since He has said that, you can not imagine the people that have come into my life to be nasty. But God used them to see if I was going to find a way of brokenness or a way of self-justification - in biblical correctness.

I would suggest that you go over this word once a month. Get quiet and filled with the Spirit before you go over it. Also submit yourself to discerning ones to expose repetitious fault in you - not intermittent fault. In other words if I see a wrongs spirit repetitiously coming out of your life in relationships; only after a prolonged time of prayer (identifying with your faults as my own faults) will I come and ask you. If we do not get the answers and the time comes, I will come and share with you something we need to work on. If you say, "No, I do not want to hear it," I will not tell you. If it is something intermittent I will never bother with it. I am not interested in straining at gnats and swallowing camels with your faults.

I think this message is one of the most severe messages I have ever taught. You need to be vigorous at wanting this kind of relationship more than any other thing that you do. There is not anything in your unsanctified parts that will be vigorous with this. That is why Paul said, "*I buffet my body lest after I preached the gospel, I myself*

would be disqualified.” You have to be willing to take yourself by the nape of the neck and say, “You are going to be a loser of your self interests, your self gratification, your self justification and your self pity. It is healthy for you to say, “God let me see in the light of the standard of your righteousness.”

A PRAYER

Father, thank you for the word. Thank you for the severity of just a glimpse into our corruption from the fall. But more than this, you said that if we do sin we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous one. Would you give us grace to humble ourselves. Would you give us grace to come and find your power to enable us to repent. Would you give us grace to deny other interests, other pleasures, other leisures, other comforts. Would you give husbands and wives grace to humble themselves and seek you together. Would you give grace to the saints to will to seek you until you come - until they go free. More than this until you become displaced where they used to live. Amen.