

A Wicked Man, Worms and the Word

Acts 12:19-24

December 23, 2007

Here in our text we have a **wicked man** (Herod), **worms** (how he died), and the **Word** (the word of God which liveth and abideth f_____). (1Pe.1:24-25)

Herod planned to kill Peter as he did James, but he was o_____. God had other plans for Peter and for this wicked self-serving ruler, as well. (Act.12:1-24; Eph.1:11; Psa.115:3)

The Proud Persecutor is soon g_____, but GOD'S WORD continues. It cannot be stopped. It will grow and be multiplied, reaching to all the elect. It shall accomplish a____ of God's purposes. (Act.12:19-24; 1Pe.1:24-25)

I. The Sin of Pride

Pride can better be described than defined. It is the opposite of God-fearing humility. It is self-absorption, self-focus, self-exaltation and self-sufficiency. It is *s_n*. (Isa.14:12-14)

II. The Source of Pride

Herod did not get his pride from his grandfather Herod, but from his grandfather A_____. (Mat.2; Rom.5:12)

From the very beginning of our appearance in this world we a____ want our own way (self-centeredness, pride), and we are willing to do what is necessary to get it. (Psa.58:3; Isa.53:6)

III. The Subtlety of Pride

Pride is so sneaky because we are born with the awareness of ourselves and our desires, but w_____ the desire for or awareness of God. (Rom.3:9-12,18)

Pride is subtle. We can't see God, but we can see what we want to e____. We can see what we want to h____. And we can see the people that we want to think highly of us and praise us. (Psa.58:3; 1Jo.2:15-16)

IV. The Snare of Pride

In our pride we think that we are in control. "I propose. I dispose." "I have and *I w_____* get by with doing what I want." (Psa.10; 73:1-12)

But it isn't so. The wicked are snared with their own pride. And the destruction that awaits them at any moment is b_____ imagination. (Psa.73:17-19)

Where are Herod's pleasures now? Did he take any of his possessions with him? (Yes/No) Does he now think that he is a god? (Yes/No) How about you? (1Jo.2:17)

V. The Solution for Pride

Humble yourself in t_____ submission to the God who rightfully should have all your love, devotion and praise. He has given you a____ that you have. He has been so merciful and kind to you. (Jam.4:10)

Bow to the Lord Jesus Christ as your only S_____ and rightful K_____ in your heart. (Rom.10:9)

Be a_____ of the Lord. Keep your eyes upon Him and not on other men or things. (Pro.23:17; 37:1-9; Eph.5:14-21)