

Three Soul Searching Questions From Paul

BY DAVID JEREMIAH

When we are filled with superiority or conceit, we act as if we had something to do with what we have or what we know, as if we could take credit in some way for who we are. And to think like that is to ignore God's sovereignty as the ruler over all.

Paul took up the issue of pride with the Corinthians when he asked them some pointed questions in 1 Corinthians 4:7:

- Question 1: "For who makes you differ from another?"
- Question 2: "And what do you have that you did not receive?"
- Question 3: "Now if you did indeed receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?"

By its very nature, pride is competitive. Pride thinks it is the greatest one in the room.... And when someone else appears who might appear qualified to take that position away, pride kicks into gear. This is what sets pride apart from other vices—it is the only one that is competitive at heart. Pride thrives on comparison and remaining on top. That is why we are admonished about the dangers of pride in Proverbs 16:18-19 (KJV): "*Pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.* Better it is to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil."