

## TREMBLING IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

TEXT: (Proverbs 28:14, NIV)

<sup>14</sup> Blessed is the one who always trembles before God, but whoever hardens their heart falls into trouble.

## INTRODUCTION

1. “A son honors his father, and a servant his master. If I am a father, where is the honor due me? If I am a master, where is the respect due me?” says the LORD Almighty” (Malachi 1:6, NIV).
2. “But you profane it by saying of the Lord’s table, ‘It is defiled,’ and of its food, ‘It is contemptible’” (Malachi 1:12, NIV).
3. “And you say, ‘What a burden!’ and you sniff at it contemptuously,” says the LORD Almighty” (Malachi 1:13).
4. [The Jews] were broken off because of unbelief, and you stand by faith. Do not be arrogant, but tremble” (Romans 11:20, NIV).

## I. WHY HONOR GOD?

## A. Living Sacrifices

1. "And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple" (Luke 14:27, NIV).
2. "I die every day—I mean that, brothers—just as surely as I glory over you in Christ Jesus our Lord" (I Corinthians 15:31).
3. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service" (Romans 12:1, KJV).

## B. A Willingness to Let Go

1. “Then God said, ‘Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about’” (Genesis 22:2, NIV).

## C. The Cross or Crossing Over

1. “You cannot serve both God and Money” (Matthew 6:24, NIV).
2. “Others were tortured and refused to be released, so that they might gain a better resurrection. Some faced jeers and flogging, while still others were chained and put in prison. They were stoned; they were sawed in two; they were put to death by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated—the world was not worthy of them” (Hebrews 11:35-38, NIV).

## II. DAVID FEARED THE LORD

1. “After removing Saul, he made David their king. God testified concerning him: ‘I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do’” (Acts 13:22, NIV).
2. “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom” (Psalm 111:10, NIV).

## A. When Facing the Giant

1. “David said to Saul, “Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine; your servant will go and fight him” (I Samuel 17:32, NIV).

## B. When Integrity Was Tested

1. “Then David crept up unnoticed and cut off a corner of Saul’s robe” (I Samuel 24:4, NIV).
2. “So David took the spear and water jug near Saul’s head, and they left” (I Samuel 26:12, NIV).
3. “Do not touch my anointed ones; do my prophets no harm” (I Chronicles 16:22, NIV).

## III. THE DESTRUCTIVENESS OF A HARDENED HEART AND PRIDE

1. “But after Uzziah became powerful, his pride led to his downfall. He was unfaithful to the LORD his God, and entered the temple of the LORD to burn incense on the altar of incense” (II Chronicles 26:16, NIV).

## A. Pride Leads to Destruction

1. “A man’s heart is the proudest when his downfall is nearest, for he won’t see glory until the Lord sees humility” (Proverbs 18:12, TPT).
2. “Your boast becomes a prophecy of a future failure. The higher you lift yourself up in pride, the harder you’ll fall in disgrace” (Proverbs 16:18, TPT).
3. “First pride, then the crash—the bigger the ego, the harder the fall” (Proverbs 16:18, Message).
4. “Two men went up to the Temple to pray, one a Pharisee, the other a tax man. The Pharisee posed and prayed like this: ‘Oh, God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, crooks, adulterers, or, heaven forbid, like this tax man. I fast twice a week and tithe on all my income’” (Luke 18:10, MSG).
5. “The pride of your heart has deceived you, you who live in the clefts of the rocks and make your home on the heights, you who say to yourself, ‘Who can bring me down to the ground?’ Though you soar like the eagle and make your nest among the stars, from there I will bring you down,” declares the LORD” (Obadiah 1:3-4, NIV).

## B. Pride Is a Seedbed That Produces Bad Fruit

1. “Pride in a man’s heart is a seed bed which produces many a foul fruit” (Mink, May 1978).
2. “To fear the LORD is to hate evil; I hate pride and arrogance, evil behavior and perverse speech” (Proverbs 8:13, NIV).
3. “Pride only breeds quarrels” (Proverbs 13:10, NIV).

## C. Pride Gets You Coming and Going

1. “All a man’s ways seem right to him, but the LORD weighs the heart” (Proverbs 21:2, NIV).
2. “The greatest among you will be your servant. For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted” (Matthew 23:11-12, NIV).

## CONCLUSION:

1. “Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if *there be any* wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting” (Psalm 139:23-24, KJV).