

The Arrogance Complex: Attitude, Negative Volition, Authority, Self-Righteous, Sexual, Criminal, Psychopathic, Unhappiness, Iconoclastic; Rational & Irrational

- 9) There are two cosmic systems of satanic influence and manipulation: (1) the Arrogance Complex of *apathy* toward Bible doctrine and (2) the Hatred Complex of *antagonism* toward Bible doctrine.¹

1. **The Arrogance Complex:** This is a system common to the Dark Side that controls the soul of both the unbeliever and the carnal believer.

This complex is manifest in the believer by apathy toward the Word of God and results in flawed and erroneous thought that is accepted as truth and produces human good. These thoughts are in league with doctrines of demons (1 Timothy 4:1-2) and the believer who holds them has been co-opted as an enemy of the cross of Christ. The solution is the application of the power resources available in the divine dynasphere beginning with rebound and followed by consistency in one's spiritual growth all the way to occupation with Christ.

A person involved in the "arrogance complex" becomes engaged in the following manifestations:

Attitude Arrogance: a disposition that reflects self-centeredness, self-pity, and self-importance fueled by sins that react to various areas of testing or discipline. It gets its momentum from mental attitude sins and prolonged results in the facilitation of the three arrogant skills.

Negative Volition: indifference to the teaching of the Word of God, expressed by complete withdrawal from biblical teaching or by migration to a church that does not consider serious study of the Word of God to be important.

Authority Arrogance: All successful organizations have a system that was developed over time through trial and error. Once policy is established those in the organization must isolate any disagreements with it and carry out their duties as unto the Lord. Failure to do so is disorientation to authority that will eventually come back to haunt them. In the local church the pastor has the authority and spiritual growth is dependent upon submission to his teaching authority and the mentorship of the Spirit.

Self-righteous Arrogance: There are few things more dangerous than the person who is convinced that he is "holier than thou." Belief that one's ideas are superior motivates the desire to impose them on others and to do so by force if necessary. Those who disagree are considered benighted and are to be either belittled or controlled.

Sexual Arrogance: Normal sexual desires that are designed to be expressed in the right man-right woman relationship are distorted into a self-centered quest for self-gratification at the expense of another person. The absence of virtue love takes a ritual that commemorates soul love and distorts it into ritual without reality. The result is a damaged soul and body for each person involved.

¹ For a complete summary of the cosmic systems, see R. B. Thieme, Jr.'s *Christian Integrity*, 3d ed., (Houston: R. B. Thieme, Jr., Bible Ministries, 2002), 178-186.

Criminal Arrogance: A person with this form of self-centeredness ignores the principle of private property assuming that what others have is his and he may take it from them when he wants. This form of arrogance is an expression of power lust and the belief that he is above the law since he considers all people in authority his inferiors.

Psychopathic Arrogance: Solomon teaches in Proverbs 23:7 that “As a man thinks in his soul so is he.” Poor decisions limit future options and cause the arrogant to develop solutions that only compound the problem. His distorted thinking creates a state of unreality in which his solutions are illusions. Afraid to admit the delusion, he continues on the road to ruin until he destroys himself and often others.

The Arrogance of Unhappiness: True happiness is an inner resource that relies on the counsel of the Word of God to maintain tranquility of soul. Those that pursue happiness from external resources are constantly frustrated by the failure of people and things to consistently provide the desired contentment. Circumstances are used as excuses for failure and other people are blamed for their inability to achieve happiness. This over-emphasis on self and the inability to acquire the desired happiness creates an unpleasant personality that others try to avoid and in so doing earns the wrath of the unhappy sociopath.

Iconoclastic Arrogance: The arrogance of groupies. The person with this trend is drawn to someone he admires and to whom he imputes an aura of perfection. However, when the admired person fails in some way, then the iconoclast becomes disillusioned and reacts with anger and bitterness. In retaliation for “letting him down,” he tries to destroy the person he previously idolized. The person who is the object of his affection is often completely ignorant of the fact he is both admired and hated.

Rational and Irrational Arrogance: Those who fancy themselves theologians but ignorant of an orthodox system of hermeneutics arrogantly argue points of doctrine but have no idea of what they speak. They have developed in their own minds principles they assume support their positions but which are false premises that have led them to erroneous or heretical conclusions. Those who have this trend are rational antagonists of the Word of God.

Rational arrogance is spiritual revolt that becomes apathetic toward the doctrines of orthodox Christianity. Feelings trump knowledge and their view of Christianity is defined by emotions that make them feel good. Emotion is designed to respond to doctrine not react to it. One whose spiritual life is based on emotion is irrational and as a result displays behavior patterns that are rightly scoffed at by the secular world.