

The Attackers: Distractions from Cosmic One Arrogance: Attitude, Prv 23:7; Negative Volition, Gal 5:17; Authority, Ps 12:2-4; Self-righteous, Mt 7:1-2; 2 Cor 11:13-15; Sexual, 2 Sm 11:1-5; Criminal Prv 24:1-2; Psychopathic, Rom 1:21-22; Unhappiness, Eph 2:2-3; Iconoclastic, 1 Cor 1:11-15; Rational, Rom 16:17-18, & Irrational, Phil 3:18-19

16. When a believer who is under assault from the various distractions common to *cosmos diabolicus* allows them to control his life, then his conscience is vulnerable to the pitfalls associated with the cosmic system of arrogance:
 - (1) Attitude arrogance: Mental attitude sins bloat a small issue that could be resolved through grace into an intractable complex or a Gordian knot. (Proverbs 23:7)
 - (2) Negative volition: Preoccupation with self makes the believer hypersensitive and he opts for human viewpoint solutions over divine solutions. (Galatians 5:17)
 - (3) Authority arrogance: Power lust conspires to discredit or overthrow those in duly appointed positions of authority. (Psalm 12:2-4)
 - (4) Self-righteous arrogance: The attitude of those who assume themselves spiritually superior which often is expressed by legalism. They judge others according to their own standards. (Matthew 7:1-2; 2 Corinthians 11:13-15)
 - (5) Sexual arrogance: Preoccupation with self can often be expressed in sexual arrogance when it is accompanied by the lust pattern for self-gratification. The expression of compatibility and rapport with the spouse become a ritual without reality. (2 Samuel 11:1-5)

- (6) Criminal arrogance: This is associated with authority arrogance. It is driven by the lust to control others for one's own benefit. What is his is his and what is others' is his; other people exist for his own benefit and he regards himself above the law. (Proverbs 24:1-2)
- (7) Psychopathic arrogance: The believer lives in a fantasy world which he cannot distinguish from reality. He cannot relate to other people and this inability results in an insecurity that is expressed by intolerance of others. He is extremely subjective and as a result develops a persecution complex. (Romans 1:21-22)
- (8) Unhappiness: True happiness is an inner resource developed over time but not consistently functional until one arrives at spiritual maturity. True happiness is not dependent upon circumstances, people, possessions, or good fortune. But when these things are absent the cosmic believer becomes frustrated and engages in a frantic search for happiness which only results in additional frustration. (Ephesians 2:2-3)
- (9) Iconoclastic arrogance: This is subjective preoccupation with another person to whom perfection is assigned. When that person inevitably reveals his feet of clay then he is attacked out of rage by his secret admirer. This person usually has no idea he has been assigned perfection and no idea that an innocuous "failure" on his part is the cause of the vicious counterattacks by the frustrated admirer. (1 Corinthians 1:11-15)

- (10) Rational and Irrational Arrogance: The former is suffered by those who consider themselves theologians and thus bore or confuse others with their erroneous ideas about what the Bible says. Their arguments are rational based on their flawed understanding, but they are erroneous due to their ignorance of the passage's context, grammatical nuances, dispensation, or relationship to pertinent passages elsewhere in Scripture. (Romans 16:17-18)

Those who are irrational function on preconceived ideas which, when questioned, they defend with emotional outbursts. These types are neutralized by their arrogance of ignorance. (Philippians 3:18-19)

17. Whether a believer advances to the level of spiritual maturity or is restrained by his involvement in cosmic thought, his conscience contains the norms and standards that support one or the other.