

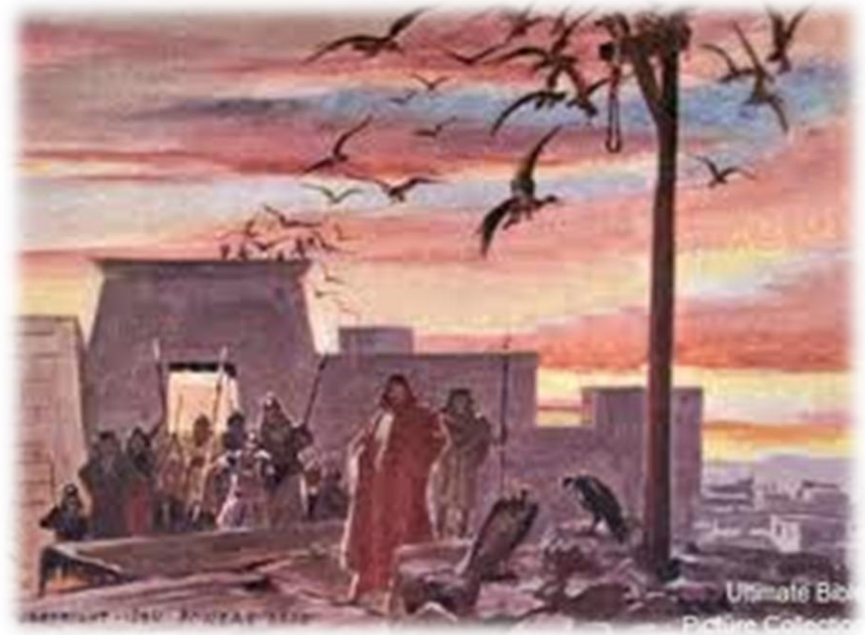
Selfishness

“Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled.” (John 6:26)

Problems of the Self

1. Self-Conceit

- An exaggeration is one's own abilities or powers; an overconfidence in the self
- Haman



Problems of the Self

2. Self-Willed

- stubborn; set on having things his way
- Jonah
- **“Ah, Lord, was not this what I said when I was still in my country? Therefore I fled previously to Tarshish; for I know that You are a gracious and merciful God...”** (Jonah 4:2)



Problems of the Self

3. Self-Indulgent

- giving free course to one's own passions and inclinations
- **“Whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them. I did not withhold my heart from any pleasure, For my heart rejoiced in all my labor; And this was my reward from all my labor.” (Eccl. 2:10)**



Problems of the Self

4. Self-Righteousness

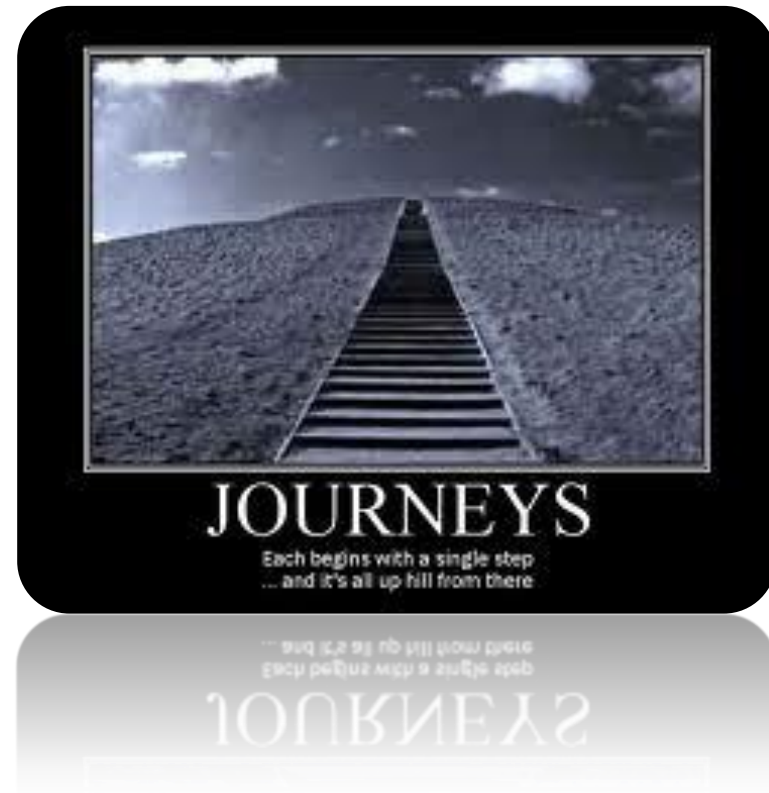
- Being righteous in one's own eyes
- **“Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:” Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.”**
(Luke 18: 9-10)



Problems of the Self

5. Self-Satisfaction

- Being pleased with who and what one is
- **“Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” (Phil. 3:12-14)**



The Cure: Selflessness

Examples:

- Abraham
- The Good Samaritan
- St. Paul



- **“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”**
(Gal. 2:20)
- **“And I will very gladly spend and be spent for your souls; though the more abundantly I love you, the less I am loved.”** (2 Cor. 12:15)

The Cure: Selflessness

1. Self-Denial

- ***“Let nothing *be done* through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.”***
(Phil. 2:3)
- **“Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.”**
(1 Pet.5:6-7)



The Cure: Selflessness

2. Self-Control

- Definition: *the ability to control oneself, in particular one's emotions and desires or the expression of them in one's behavior, esp. in difficult situations.* (Oxford Dictionary)
- ***“He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, And he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.”***
(Prov. 16:32)



The Cure: Selflessness

3. Self-Sacrifice

- **“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.”**

(Rom. 12:1)

