## Appendix A

# Attitudes Am I a Proud or a Broken Person?

From the book: Brokenness The Heart That God Revives

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"Pride is the greatest of all evils that beset us, and of all our enemies it is that which dies the slowest and hardest." JN Darby

Years ago a missionary served in a region in Africa that had known seasons of true revival. He reported that whenever he would mention the name of any Christian, the national believers would ask him, "Is he a broken Christian?" They did not ask, "Is he a committed Christian?" or "Is he a knowledgeable Christian?" or "Is he a hardworking Christian?" They wanted to know, "Is he a broken Christian?" Are you a broken Christian? Am I? How can we know?

Over the years I have asked the Lord to show me some of the characteristic of a broken person, and how they compare with a person with a proud spirit. In the form of a "proud versus broken" comparison, I have listed some of the things that have come to my attention as I've allowed the Lord to search my own heart. This is by no means an exhaustive list; the Lord will undoubtedly show you other characteristics as you open your heart to Him.

Let me encourage you to avoid the temptation to skim through this list. Instead, take time to read it prayerfully and ask God to show you, "Am I a proud or a broken person?" You may even want to place a small check next to any evidences of pride that you see in your life. That simple act could be an important step toward cultivating the broken, humble heart that God revives.

#### **ATTITUDES TOWARD OTHERS**

1. **Proud** people focus on the failures of others and can readily point out those faults.

Broken people are more conscious of their own spiritual need than of anyone else's.

2. **Proud** people have a critical, faultfinding spirit. They look at everyone else's faults with a microscope but view their own with a telescope.

**Broken** people are compassionate- they have the kind of love that overlooks a multitude of sins; they can forgive much because they know how much they have been forgiven.

3. **Proud** people are especially prone to criticize those in positions of authority- their pastor, their boss, their husband, their parents- and they talk to others about the faults they see.

**Broken** people reverence, encourage, and lift up those that God has placed in positions of authority, and they talk to God in intercession, rather than gossiping about the faults they see in others.

4. **Proud** people are self-righteous; they think of themselves and look down on others.

Broken people think the best of others, they esteem others as better than themselves.

5. **Proud** people have an independent, self-sufficient spirit.

**Broken** people have a dependent spirit; they recognize their need for God and for others.

#### **ATTITUDES ABOUT RIGHTS**

6. **Proud** people have to prove that they are right- they have to get the last word.

**Broken** people are willing to yield right to be right.

7. **Proud** people claim rights and have a demanding spirit.

**Broken** people yield their rights and have a meek spirit.

8. **Proud** people are self-protective of their time, their rights, and their reputation.

Broken people are self denying and self sacrificing.

#### ATTITUDES ABOUT SERVICE AND MINISTRY

9. **Proud** people desire to be served- they want life to revolve around them and their own needs.

**Broken** people are motivated to serve others and to be sure other's needs are met before their own.

10. **Proud** people desire to be known as a success.

**Broken** people are motivated to be faithful and to make others successful.

11. **Proud** people have a feeling conscious or subconscious- that "this ministry (or this organization) is privilege to have me and my gifts." They focus on what they can do for God.

**Broken** people have a heart attitude that says, "I don't deserve to have any part in this ministry"; they know that they have nothing to offer God except the life of Jesus flowing through their broken lives.

#### **ATTITUDES ABOUT RECOGNITION**

12. Proud people crave self –advancement.

Broken people desire to promote others.

13. **Proud** people have a drive to be recognized and appreciated for their efforts.

**Broken** people have a sense of their own unworthiness; they are thrilled that God would use them at all.

14. **Proud** people get wounded when others are promoted and they are overlooked.

**Broken** people are eager for others to get the credit, and they rejoice when others are lifted up.

15. **Proud** people are elated by praise and deflated by criticism.

**Broken** people know that any praise of their accomplishments belongs to the Lord and that criticism can help them grow into spiritual maturity.

#### **ATTITUDES ABOUT THEMSELVES**

16. **Proud** people feel confident in how much they know.

**Broken** people are humbled by how very much they have to learn.

17. **Proud** people are self-conscious; they worry about what others think of them.

**Broken** people are not preoccupied with what others think of them.

18. **Proud** people are concerned about appearing respectable; they are driven to protect their image and reputation.

**Broken** people are concerned with being real; they care less about what others think than about what God knows- they are willing to die to their own reputation.

19. **Proud** people can't bear to fail or for anyone to think they are less than perfect. This can drive them to extremes- workaholic tendencies, perfectionism, the tendency to drive others or to place unrealistic expectations on themselves or others.

Broken people can recognize and live within God-given limitations.

#### **ATTITUDES ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS**

20. **Proud** people keep others at arm's length.

**Broken** people are willing to take the risks of getting close to others and loving intimately.

21. **Proud** people are quick to blame others.

**Broken** people accept personal responsibility and can acknowledge where they were wrong in a situation.

22. **Proud** people wait for others to come and ask forgiveness when there is a misunderstanding or a breach in a relationship.

**Broken** people take the initiative to be reconciled, no matter how wrong the other party may have been.

23. **Proud** people are unapproachable or defensive when corrected.

**Broken** people receive correction with a humble, open spirit.

24. **Proud** people find it difficult to discuss their spiritual needs with others.

Broken people are willing to be open and transparent with others as God directs.

25. **Proud** people try to control the people and the circumstances around them – they are prone to manipulate.

Broken people trust in God- they rest in Him and are able to wait for Him to act on their behalf.

26. **Proud** people become bitter and resentful when they are wronged; they have emotional temper tantrums; they hold others hostage and are easily offended; they carry grudges and keep a record of others' wrongs.

Broken people give thanks in all things; they are quick to forgive those who wrong them.

#### ATTITUDE ABOUT SIN

27. **Proud** people want to be sure that no one finds out when they have sinned; their instinct is to cover up.

**Broken** people aren't overly concerned with who knows or who finds out about their sin- they are willing to be exposed because they have nothing to lose.

28. Proud people have a hard time saying "I was wrong; will you please forgive me?

Broken people are quick to admit their failure and to seek forgiveness when necessary.

29. **Proud** people tend to deal in generalities when confessing their sin to God ("Dear Lord, please forgive me for all my sins...") or expressing spiritual need to others ("I need to be a better Christian...")

**Broken** people are able to acknowledge specifics when confessing their sin; "Lord, I agree with You that I love myself more than I love my mate, I confess that I am addicted to television; I'm a glutton; I have a critical spirit; I am an angry mother...."

30. **Proud** people are concerned about the consequences of their sin. They are disturbed over the problems caused by their sin- for example, the financial bondage created by their overspending, or the problems in their marriage that have resulted from selfishness and immoral choices.

**Broken** people are grieved over the cause, the root of their sin. They are more concerned about how their sin has grieved and dishonored God than about the problems it has created in their lives.

31. **Proud** people are remorseful over their sin- sorry that they got caught or found out. Broken people are truly repentant over their sin, and the evidence of their repentance is that they forsake the sin.

#### ATTITUDES ABOUT THEIR WALK WITH GOD

32. **Proud** people are blind to the true condition of their hearts.

**Broken** people walk in the light and acknowledge the truth about their lives.

33. **Proud** people compare themselves with others and feel worthy of respect.

**Broken** people compare themselves with the holiness of God and feel desperate need for His mercy.

34. **Proud** people don't think they need to repent of anything.

Broken people realize that they need to maintain a continual heart attitude of repentance.

35. **Proud** people don't think they need revival, but they are sure everyone else does. (In fact, right now, they are making a mental list of the people they think need to read this book!)

**Broken** people continually sense their need for a fresh encounter with God and for a fresh filling of His Holy Spirit.\*2

Are you a "broken Christian"?

Based on these characteristics, how would you answer that question? How would those in your family or your workplace respond if they were asked, "Is he/she a broken Christian?" Most important, what would God say?

If this list has helped you realize that you are proud, rather than a broken person, do not despair. God has been merciful to show you your need. The first step to brokenness and humility is to get honest and acknowledge your need. Walk in the light; agree with God about what He has revealed to be the true condition of your heart. Don't try to cover up, justify, rationalize, compare yourself with your mate, or pretend that you are better off than you really are. "Humble (yourself) in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up" (James 4:10). The infinite riches and blessings of the kingdom of God belong to those who recognize their spiritual poverty.

#### Notes

- 1.Edwin and Lillian Harvey, comps., Royal Insignia (Yanceyville, NC.: Harvey & Tait, 1992), 87.
- \*2. The key points from this list are available on a bookmark (individually or in quantity) Contact Revive Our Hearts, P:O: Box 31, Buchanan, MI 49107; (269) 684-5905; email; Info@LifeAction.org

## Appendix B

### Psalm 91

PS 91:1 "He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty."

He starts this message from the Lord saying that if you have the right attitude with God, then you will set you life on the right path. Here is the attitude of trust and safety in God, then God will reward this attitude with rest.

PS 91:2 "I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

Is trust an attitude? How can you say, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." If you do not have the attitude of trust in God?

- PS 91:3 "Surely He will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence."
- PS 91:4 "He will cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you will find refuge; His faithfulness will be your shield and rampart."
- PS 91:5 "You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day,
- PS 91:6 nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday."
- PS 91:7 "A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you."
- PS 91:8 "You will only observe with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked."
- PS 91:9 "If you make the Most High your dwelling--even the LORD, who is my refuge--
- PS 91:10 then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent."

Is "If you make the Most High your dwelling" an attitude? How can you make Him a dwelling, a place of living? Is it not just a way to show you how and what attitude to have towards God and now to love Him in your trust of Him?

- PS 91:11 "For He will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways;
- PS 91:12 they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone."
- PS 91:13 "You will tread upon the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent."

Is this not a reward for you being obedient to God, by trusting Him and in Him. By setting your attitude to love, trust and obey Him?

PS 91:14 "Because he loves Me," says the LORD, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges My name."

PS 91:15 "He will call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him."

PS 91:16 "With long life will I satisfy him and show him My salvation.""

This is ultimate reward to your faithfulness and righteousness. But again what are these, but attitudes towards God.