



**“I shall always be ready to remind you of these things...”
2 Peter 1:21**

Our Universal Weakness, Part I

By Alex Hale

These days, there seems to be a resurgence in the popularity of superhero movies. If you have watched any of them, or read the comics upon which they are based, then you know that every superhero has a weakness. It is sort of a requirement, I guess. The characters could not be completely all-powerful, because without a weakness, no one could possibly defeat them – and that doesn't make for a very good storyline, right?

- Superman has his kryptonite.
- The Green Lantern has the color yellow.
- According to the original story, if Thor lets go of his hammer for more than sixty seconds he loses his power.

Leaving the Marvel Comics universe and coming back to our own, we find that much like kryptonite or the color yellow, we too have a weakness – it is called pride. As disciples, we are called to be humble people (1 Pet 5:5; Phil 2:3-4). However, pride can enter our minds very easily. Benjamin Franklin once said, “There is perhaps none of our natural passions so hard to subdue as pride. Beat it down, stifle it, mortify it as much as one pleases – it is still alive. Even if I could conceive that I had completely overcome it I would probably be proud of my humility.” Part of the problem with pride is that it is easy to see in other people, but hard to see in ourselves. I'm reminded of an old cartoon from *New Yorker* magazine which showed a smiling woman talking nonstop to a companion. The woman finally said, “Well, that's enough about me. Now let's talk about you. What do you think *about me?*”

Sinful pride is conceit or egotism. It is an attitude of superiority which manifests itself in arrogance and boasting. Pride is the assumption that we are somehow better, or more important, than others. Pride can even make us think we are more important than God (Isa 14:13-15; Gen 3:1-15). We must identify pride, consider the dangers of pride, and work to defeat pride in our lives.



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When We Meet

Sunday

Bible Classes – 9:00 am
Worship – 10:00 am, 5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Classes – 7:00 pm

Our Elders

R.D. Hopper
Norman Kemper

Our Deacons

Troy Hunter
Kelly Kendall
Tony Ramick

Our Preacher

Alex Hale