Exodus Chapter 10 Verse 18

* Moses displays **great patience** here. I look at this, Moses simply trusting God, walking in patience and mercy, and I want to be more like this…in the Spirit. My flesh does not want to be like this **at all**…BUT….***my flesh is not the lead.*** How about you?
* This is not repentance…this is not true sorrow over sin…it’s been said of this scene, *“Once again comes the easy confession of sin, and the shallow repentance that springs only from a desire to avert the consequences…”* and yet still, Moses intercedes for him.

Exodus Chapter 10 Verses 19 – 23

* This is the ninth plague, the ***final warning*** before all is lost…and notice, **it is darkness.** Darkness so thick that it can be ***felt***…this is the final stop for the one serving themselves in this life before the house of cards falls…darkness that is felt the most by those that surround you, your family and friends. You can’t reach them, (not able to see one another), and they are simply unable to rise. Why? The darkness is so very thick.
* Here is the cure. Jesus. Three days the disciples were in darkness of spirit as Jesus remained a dead Savior. But when He arose, He came to them, gave them peace, and breathed on them again…saying, “Receive the Holy Spirit.”
* Where should you turn if darkness has surrounded you? ***The people of God. There is light there***…but pride is such a weight and hook…if you are in darkness today, struggling with pride and your life is getting darker and you are not willing to humble yourself to God and turn in to where the light is…the next stop may just be the ***final destination***…not God’s will for you. It is however most certainly the will of the enemy for you…Christian and non-Christian alike.

Exodus Chapter 10 Verses 24 – 29

* If you try to negotiate, haggle…work something out with God…***my side of my life, Your side of my life***…***then you really don’t yet know Him.*** ***When all He has for you is better than anything you could ever make for yourself***… Pharaoh is now **beyond reason**…and Moses doesn’t fall at his feet and make things more comfortable for him or try another tactic or secede in any way…***he turns, and walks out.***
* God has honored his free will…and at this point, Moses does too…but by the first verse of the next chapter, we know Moses continues to pray for Pharaoh…we know Moses’ heart was as heavy as Pharaoh’s was hard…because just like God wanted for Pharaoh, just as His will is for you…Moses also wanted Pharaoh to make it…but pride, man. Pride was Pharaoh’s god…not God.
* It’s been said that ***as seriously dangerous as pride is, it’s equally hard to spot.*** It affects our *eyesight and insight*, causing us to view ourselves and our lives and our situations through a lens that ***colors and distorts reality.*** It is the universal grip of the flesh which even can paint our own sin in some sort of *commendable* light. Here is the simplest way to spot pride…to identify it correctly. Psalm 10:4, *“The wicked in his proud countenance does not seek God; God is in none of his thoughts.”* That’s really it…I don’t care ***how you’ve been raised, what you’ve learned, how you feel, what you’re trying to accomplish***, ***the way you are acting or reacting…would God be proud of you…or are you only occupied with your own pride?***
* Here are a few subtle signs of pride in your life. **Fault finding.** Pride has a way of filtering out the sense of evil in ourselves while also filtering out the value of others. Second, a **harsh spirit**. Those sick with pride and succumbed to it will speak of the short comings and sins of others with great *contempt, irritation, frustration and unkindness*. Third, **superficiality.** When pride is powerful, we are very concerned, ***more concerned*** with how we are perceived than how we really are, the true state of our hearts. And so we work the politics rather than the problem.
* Fourth, **defensiveness**. Humility is not knocked out of balance and thrown into a defensive posture by challenge or insult but instead continues in doing good, trusting the Lord. Fifth, **neglect**. Neglect of God and neglect of others. Pride prefers self over God and pride prefers some people over others. Sixth, pride goes from focus on self to down on self when **confronted with consequence.** I’m doing fine and everyone around me is catering to me until one person says ***enough*** and confronts my sinful attitude, way or habit…and then I throw a poor me pity party. Humility goes to school in that situation with even a grateful heart for now seeing what was not seen…while ***pride pouts*** that imperfection is present…just a few signs to watch for because truly, ***if anything will keep you from what God has for you, its pride…***