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you in due time:” (1 Peter 5:6).*

Oh sinner: instead of sweeping your sin under the carpet with an unwarranted positive self-image, admit to God what you really are. We are all sinners with only one hope. Our only hope is to beg the Lord God, Jesus Christ, to forgive our sins. Ask Him to redeem you with His precious blood, sacrificed for sinners like you and me.

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A DESTRUCTIVE SELF-IMAGE

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Modern man has become keenly aware that a proper self-image is very important. Psychiatrists emphasize that a positive self-image is essential to mental health. Great importance is placed on eliminating feelings of guilt. It is taught that self love is key to loving others. Counseling centers emphasize the importance of pride in one's self and in one's accomplishments.

Perhaps in contemplating this matter, we ought to ask God what He thinks. As we consult His Word, the Bible, we suddenly discover that God sees things much differently than we do. In fact, he tells us so. He says,

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts" (Isaiah 55:8-9).

What does God command regarding our self-image? Instead of encouraging pride, He condemns it. He says,

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What does God command regarding our self-image? Instead of encouraging pride, He condemns it. He says,

"Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall"
(Proverbs 16:18).

God says,

"...be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble" (1 Peter 5:5).

To those who pound their chests in ridiculous pride He says,

"An high look, and a proud heart, and the plowing of the wicked, is sin"
(Proverbs 21:4).

Instead of a positive self-image, God instructs mankind to be heart-broken over sin

"The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit" (Psalms 34:18).

Instead of exalting ourselves, God says,

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