

1. Pride and Arrogance repackaged.

- ✓ What used to be called pride and arrogance and got repackaged and resold under a different label - we all bought it.
 - ✓ The Bible can't seem to say enough bad about Pride or self-love: **Proverbs 16:5; Proverbs 18; Isaiah 2:12, James. 4:6; 10; Jeremiah 9:23-24; 1st John 2:16.**
 - ✓ Richard Taylor (philosopher) defined pride as "**the justified love of oneself**", as opposed to false pride or narcissism (although he feels justified in his love of self as well...where do we draw the line?).
 - ✓ A narcissist feels justified in his self-love, nonetheless!
 - ✓ St. Augustine defined pride as "the love of one's own excellence."
 - ✓ Self-esteem is an individual's subjective evaluation of their own worth.
 - ✓ **Isaiah 14:12-15**; Satan has certainly proven that self-love is not the answer.
 - ✓ Satan was deposed and stripped of his glory because he esteemed himself; happens to people as well: **Daniel 5:20.**
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2. The Self-Love movement. Purpose of the self-esteem movement was to help people - People who were hopeless and in great need of encouragement and the need to feel loved.

- ✓ It's the same feeling that God has for us and what motivates Him toward us "like sheep without a shepherd" "He remembers that we are but dust."
 - ✓ He loves us and has compassion on us and wants to fix us and give us a sense of value and purpose in Him.
 - ✓ The self-esteem movement started from good motives, but they arrived at wrong conclusions and solutions.
 - ✓ Instead of turning to our Creator, it turned us inward to ourselves: **2nd Corinthians 10:12.**
 - ✓ In fact, experience and even humanistic research has proven that the self-esteem movement is a farse.
 - ✓ Self-esteem or Esteeming Self or Self Love became our mantra to end all crime and fix all our problems - but it made things far worse.
 - ✓ Self-esteem movement proper start in the 70's and gained momentum in the 80's.
 - ✓ *Task Force on Self-Esteem and Personal and Social Responsibility* in California was started in 1986. - The Study ended by ultimately showing that low self-esteem is not the root of all societal problems and not as important as the committee had originally thought. **The task force disbanded in 1995.**
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3. Traditional view of Self-Esteem.

- ✓ Up until the 20th century, traditional cultures including the biblical culture always believed a high view of self was the root cause of most of the evil in the world.
 - ✓ Why do people do bad things? Why are people cruel? Traditionally the answer was pride and arrogance and love of self.
 - ✓ The general belief today is that people misbehave for the exact opposite reason - lack of self-esteem, self-love.
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4. Manic, Depressive culture.

- ✓ Because we based our esteem on self and not God's evaluation, we got an expected result: narcissism and self-hate.
 - ✓ Mankind is incapable of balance without God.
 - ✓ Instead of returning people to their Creator where they could find that purpose and value, they created a false system of valuation that has led us even further from where our real solution lies.
 - ✓ Self-esteem is an individual's subjective evaluation of their own worth.
 - ✓ The problem is that we have **no subjective value**, our value will never be found in who we but in Whose we are.
 - ✓ Psalms 139:14; We are valuable because God made us!
 - ✓ We are valuable because of the price He set on us: I Corinthians 6:20.
 - ✓ We only have value in the context of our relationship with God.
 - ✓ We only have value because He has assigned value to us, but the valuation is not intrinsic.
 - ✓ Mankind only has value in the context of God and belonging to Him. Outside of God we are worthless. In fact, not just worthless - we have a negative value. Isaiah 1:5-6 (way God describes those in rebellion against Him) Ephesians 2:3 "by nature".
 - ✓ Jesus has come to give us value, Jesus died and rose again to give us value: "In Him": Ephesians 1:3; Ephesians 1:4; Ephesians 1:5; Ephesians 1:6-7.
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