**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. August 27, 2017**

**The Deadly Danger of Pride**

ACTS 12:20-25

**Key Truth:** There is both mercy and judgment with the Lord.

1. As followers of Jesus Christ our dependence should

 be on God and not mortal man.

 A. We are to respect and pray for our government

 leaders but never to place our total faith and

 allegiance in them.

 B. We must also be willing to speak truth to power

 even when it’s unpopular or dangerous.

2. Panic and despair are never from God.

 A. God is the one who raises up leaders and He is the

 one that should be glorified.

 B. No matter how bad it looks God is still on the

 throne.

 C. Sometimes God allows the persecution of His

 people.

3. God is able to humble the prideful person.

 A. Pride is the refusal to give God the glory.

 B. To seek glory for ourselves is to declare war against

 God.

 C. To declare war against God is to commit eternal

 suicide, because God always wins.

4. God is almighty; He can easily remove the most

 powerful and proud human leaders.

 A. The gospel cannot be stopped by any opposition.

 B. Rulers come and go but God’s Word is eternal.

**Taking It Beyond the Walls:** Commit yourself wholly to the furtherance of the gospel and don’t be discouraged by the chaos around us. Pray for our nation and walk in love toward others.

**Food For Thought**

For the Week of August 27, 2017

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

**Read: Daniel 4:34-37**

What would the people who know you best say you are most proud of?

When does healthy pride turn into selfish pride?

What are some situations or relationships where pride has gotten the best of you? What have you missed out on because of your pride?

**Read James 4:1-6**

What are some issues in church life today that cause ego and pride to arise in its members? Why?

Practically, how do we guard against letting pride destroy our unity in Christ and, in effect, our witness in the world?

Is there an area in your life where ego and pride are threatening a relationship? Why is it important that we deal decisively with these issues?