

## 5 WAYS TO SELF-DESTRUCT (a warning; not a recommendation)

### INTRODUCTION

We say, "I did that to myself" "It's my own fault" "I have only myself to blame"

God's prophet, Hosea, confirms this thought of self-destruction.

(13:9) "O Israel, **thou hast destroyed thyself**, but in Me is thine help"  
(14:1) "O Israel, return unto the Lord thy God, for **thou hast fallen by thine iniquity**"  
(7:2) "... **their own doings** have beset them ... "  
(8:3) "**Israel hast cast off the thing** that is good: the enemy shall pursue them"  
(10:13) "**Ye have plowed wickedness**, ye have reaped iniquity"

The thought is true in our spiritual life, too:

(Prov. 6:27-28) "Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? ... "  
(Gal. 6:7-8) "... for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap ... "  
(Romans 6:17-18) "... his servants ye are to whom ye obey ... "

### HOW DO WE DO IT TO OURSELVES?

#### 1. SINS (Prov. 8:36) "he that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul ... "

(Isa. 59:1-2) "... **your iniquities have separated** between you and your God ... "  
(Hosea 13:9) "... but in Me is thine help" - we do not have to let sin destroy us.  
(Titus 2:11; 1 Cor. 10:13; 2 Peter 1:4-8)

#### 2. SPEECH

(Matt. 12:36-37) "... **for by thy words** thou shalt be justified ... be condemned"  
(Eph. 4:29) "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth ... "

#### 3. PRIDE

(Prov. 16:18) "**Pride goes before destruction**, an **haughty spirit** before a fall"  
(Prov. 15:25) "The Lord will destroy the house of the proud"  
(Prov. 29:23) "A man's pride shall bring him low"

#### 4. LACK OF KNOWLEDGE

(Hosea 4:6) "My people are destroyed for a **lack of knowledge** ... hast rejected knowledge"  
(John 6:45; Acts 17:11; 1 Thess. 5:21; 2 Tim. 2:15)

#### 5. PREJUDICE (Matt. 13:15) "**their eyes they have closed** ... and should be converted ... " (1 Tim. 2:3-4) "... who would have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth"