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4 WAYS TO SELF-DESTRUCT

(Proverbs 1:24-31)

INTRODUCTION

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

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

(Hosea 13:9) "O Israel, **you have destroyed yourself**; but in Me is your help"

(7:2) "They do not consider ... now **their own deeds** have surrounded them ... "

(8:3) "**Israel has rejected** the good ... "

(8:7) "**They sow** the wind, and reap the whirlwind"

(10:13) "**You have** plowed wickedness; you have reaped iniquity ... "

(14:1) "O Israel, return to the Lord your God, for you have stumbled **because of your iniquity**"

(Proverbs 6:27-28) "Can a **man take fire** to his bosom, and his clothes not be burned?"

(Romans 6:16) "... you are that one's slaves **whom you obey** ... "

(Galatians 6:7-8) "... for whatsoever a **man sows**, that he will also reap ... "

IN WHAT WAYS MAY WE SELF-DESTRUCT?

1. SINS - (Proverbs 8:36) "But **he who sins** against me wrongs his own soul"

(Isaiah 59:1-2) "... **your iniquities** have separated you from your God ... "

Good news! (Hosea 13:9) "... but in **Me is your help**"

(Ezekiel 18:30-32) "... Repent ... so that iniquity will **not be your ruin** ... "

(Acts 3:19) "Repent ... that **your sins may be blotted out** ... "

2. WORDS

(Matthew 12:36-37) "... and **by your words** you will be condemned"

(Ephesians 4:29) "Let no corrupt speech proceed out of your mouth ... "

3. PRIDE - (Proverbs 16:18) "**Pride goes before destruction**, a haughty spirit before a fall"

(Proverbs 15:25; Proverbs 29:23; James 4:6)

"**Pride**" - inflated ego, high-minded, excessive self-esteem, arrogance.

4. LACK OF KNOWLEDGE - (Hosea 4:6) "My people are **destroyed for lack of knowledge**. Because you have rejected knowledge, I will reject you ... "

(Romans 10:1-3) "... they have a zeal for God, **but not according to knowledge** ... have not submitted to the righteousness of God"

(John 6:45; Acts 17:11; 1 Thessalonians 5:21; 2 Timothy 2:15)

CLOSE - (2 Thessalonians 1:7-10) "... and on those who do not obey the gospel ... They shall be punished with **everlasting destruction** from the presence of the Lord ... "