

Pride is the deadliest of the deadly sins. In fact, all sin is in some way a form of pride because sin elevates our ego ahead of all else. The antidote to pride is humility. To learn humility is to learn to live in the reality that each of us is a creature of God called to worship God alone and surrender to him and his plans for us.

Pride is to be preoccupied with yourself; we can trace all the other sins back to it. Pride is taking what is from God [which is everything], and grasping it for ourselves. Arrogating to oneself, that which is the unique prerogative of God. St. Augustine spoke of pride as being: "Caved in around oneself" - you're turned in awkwardly and anxiously on yourself. Realize that you have a role in God's theodrama, then you can begin to live. God is the writer, producer and director. We need to break out of our ego drama, and be open to the Holy Spirit's work in us, who can accomplish so much more through us in the great theodrama.

St. Michael the Archangel combats Lucifer, the king of pride, who wanted to be like God, and taunts him by his very name itself: Michael: "who's like God" This is an intellectual battle between good and evil, which still pursues.

Pride is the desire to control our lives and the lives of others. This includes believing that you're essentially better or more important than others, and/or failing to recognize others accomplishments and generally put in your own desires at the top of your list of most important.

The antidote to pride is the virtue of humility, humilitas - humus - to the earth, of the ground - stop worrying about yourself, and give yourself to reality. Which doesn't mean thinking about how bad you are. True humility means having an honest realistic sense of your strengths and weaknesses and realizing whatever gifts you do have, were given to you by God. You can start by trying to give these gifts to others; doing good for someone for nothing in return. "Everyday at every minute, God has given us everything we need to be happy" - spiritual masters maxim = meaning "the simplest things, if we surrender to them, will give us joy."

