

## HOW THE MIGHTY FALL

### #1: Hubris Born of Success

2 Chronicles 26

*But when Uzziah became strong, his pride led to his downfall.*

Jim Collins is a former Stanford business professor who has become the world's leading expert on business success and failure. Three of his books shape the way leaders think and are bestsellers around the world today: *GOOD TO GREAT*, *BUILT TO LAST*, and now, *HOW THE MIGHTY FALL*. Researching mighty companies that have collapsed recently, Collins found five stages on their slippery slope to failure. But the Bible student will notice that these five stages are warning signs of failure not only for companies, but for individuals, successful people, good Christians. Over the next five weeks, we'll unwrap these five stages.

*hubris* \* excessive pride, arrogance.

#### Hubristic thinking

1. "Others are normal, but I'm special."      ➡ C \_\_\_\_\_  
*I deserve my success, because I'm extraordinary.*
2. "Others may \_\_\_\_\_, but I'm invulnerable."      ➡ Over-confidence  
*I can't fail, because I'm untouchable.*
3. "Others need to toe the line, but I'm superior."      ➡ D \_\_\_\_\_  
*I'm above the rules, because I'm unique.*
4. "Others need to \_\_\_\_\_, but I'm cool."      ➡ Complacency  
*I don't need to improve, because I'm fine.*

The essential vice, the utmost evil, is pride. Unchastity, anger, greed, drunkenness, and all that, are mere flea bites in comparison. It was through pride that the devil became the devil. Pride leads to every other vice; it is the complete anti-God state of mind.

C. S. Lewis