

FLATTERY

Definition of flattery: "To praise insincere and excessively esp. from motives of self-interest," "A pleasing self-deception."

- Webster

Flattery is Satan's primary tool to ensnare the souls of man. Because of man's egotistical nature he is an easy prey for this inflated approach. Rejection-shame and pride are inroads that make us extremely vulnerable for insincere compliments that build up a person's ego.

We live in a time in which Satan and his hordes of demons and principalities, with jezebel among them, the enemies of our souls are making their last effort to set up their kingdom of darkness on this planet through man. It is, therefore, of the first and foremost importance that we recognize or discern their tactics and ensuing snares in this end-time stretch.

Satan's kingdom built upon flatteries:

Daniel 11:21 And in his estate shall stand up a vile person, to whom they shall not give the honour of the kingdom: but he shall come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by **flatteries**.

Daniel 11:32 And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by **flatteries**: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do *exploits*.

Daniel 11:34 Now when they shall fall, they shall be helped with a little help: but many shall cleave to them with **flatteries**.

God's judgment on flattery:

Job 17:5 He that speaks **flattery** to *his* friends, even the eyes of his children shall fail.

Job 32:21-22 ²¹Let me not, I pray you, accept any man's person, neither let me give **flattering** titles unto man. ²²For I know not to give **flattering** titles; *in so doing* my maker would soon take me away.

Psalms 12:2-3 ²They speak vanity every one with his neighbour: *with flattering* lips *and* with a double heart do they speak. ³The LORD shall cut off all **flattering** lips, *and* the tongue that speaks proud things:

Warnings against flattering tongues:

Proverbs 20:19 He that *Goes about as* a talebearer reveals secrets: therefore meddle not with him that **flatters** with his lips.

Proverbs 29:5 A man that **flatters** his neighbour spreads a net for his feet.

Romans 16:17-18 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offenses contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. ¹⁸For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and **fair speeches** deceive the hearts of the simple.

The believer's position against flattery:

Luke 6:26 Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets.

Galatians 1:10 For do I now persuade men, or *God*? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

1 Thessalonians 2:4-6 ⁴But as we were allowed of *God* to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but *God*, which tries our hearts. ⁵For neither at any time used we **flattering** words, as ye know, nor a cloche of covetousness; *God is witness*: ⁶Nor of men sought we glory, neither of you, nor yet of others, when we might have been burdensome, as the apostles of Christ.

Jude 16 These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaks **great swelling words**, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage.

Instances of flattery:

1. By Jacob, *Gen.* 33:10.
2. By Gideon, *Judg.* 8:1-3.
3. By Mephibosheth, *2 Sam.* 9:8.
4. By woman of Tekoah, *2 Sam.* 14:17-20.
5. By Absalom, *2 Sam.* 15:2-6.
6. By Israel and Judah, *2 Sam.* 19:41-43.
7. By Adonijah, *1 Kin.* 1:42.
8. By Ahab, *1 Kin.* 20:4.
9. By false prophets, *1 Kin.* 22:13.
10. By Darius's courtiers, *Dan.* 6:7.
11. By the rich young ruler, *Luke* 18:18-27
12. By Herodians, *Luke* 20:21.
13. By Tyrians, *Acts* 12:22.
14. Tertullus flatters Felix, *Acts* 24:2-4.
15. Paul flatters Felix, *Acts* 24:10.
16. By Agrippa, *Acts* 26:2,3.