





NARCISSISM AND ME

BY JOHN AMES



According to WebMD, the word 'narcissism' comes from a Greek myth about Narcissus, a man who "sees his own reflection in a pool of water and falls in love with it."

While an exaggerated sense of one's attractiveness is certainly one characteristic of narcissistic personality disorder (NPD), there are many other symptoms that can indicate someone is suffering from Narcissism

This is not a study about
Narcissism, but a personal
reflection on our relationship with
God

In Romans chapter 7 Paul talks about the war within.

21 So I find this law at work:

Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. 22 For in my inner being I delight in God's law;

23 but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me.

Paul struggled!

The human body has not changed,
we are all still born with that same
sin nature, ***WE ALL STRUGGLE!***

First of all, let me give you a brief run down on some of the basic traits of narcissism.

1. Always Talk About Themselves

We tend to think and speak only of ourselves, often about our physical appearance, talents or achievements.

We also have little regard for those around us, rarely, if ever, asking others for their thoughts or feelings.

2. Fantasize

We tend to be filled with elaborate fantasies about “success, power, brilliance, beauty or the perfect mate.” As a result of these imaginings, we feel that we should have the best of everything—including houses, cars and clothing or other status-affirming things

3. We Believe we Are Superior

We have “a grandiose sense of self-importance,” leading us to feel superior to most.

In order to maintain feelings of superiority, we will resort to belittling others by focusing on their flaws—whether they're real or imagined.

4. We require Constant Praise

We are often incredibly insecure and have very fragile self-esteem. We depend on you to keep our ***“EGOS”*** puffed up.

No criticism allowed

5. Sense of Entitlement

We are expecting you to offer us special favors and fulfill our requests without question. You are here to serve me, because you defiantly don't want me going off on you.

6. Take Advantage of Others

the thing is that we are soo...
cool everybody wants to hangout
with us, but if you want to
hangout, it is going to cost you,

7. Envious of Others

we would be so much more awesome if we had what you have.

THE SHOE STORE

did you find anything in that list
that describes you?

BE HONEST

Fighting the good fight

everyone of us struggles with one form of narcissism or another, we are born with it!

***BLAME IT ON YOUR
ANCESTORS ADAM AND EVE***

Understanding where it comes
from.

And how we were born into a
war against ourselves

The first narcissist – the most beautiful, highly exalted angel of them all, is described in Isaiah 14:12-14

Isaiah 14:12

How you have fallen from
heaven, morning star, son of the
dawn! You have been cast down to
the earth, you who once laid low
the nations!

Isaiah 14:13

You said in your heart, "I will ascend to the heavens; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of Mount Zaphon.

Isaiah 14:14

I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High."

Get a mental picture Satan falling from the sky, wings on fire, leaving behind a trail of smoke, because in his heart he thought he was better than God, (remember that picture the next time you put limits on GOD)

you all know the story about
Adam and Eve, the garden and the
fruit ...

This message is not about a Satan bashing, its about our relationship with God while we are locked in a cell with a narcissistic self that we constantly wrestle with to make the right choices with the right motives

Most people like to talk about what is important to them, or what they think should be important to you! ***THEMSELVES.***

In James 1:19 My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry,

the bible is full of statements about being a good listener, sometimes our favorite subject to talk about is the bible, and our love for God, but how can we hear God speak to us?

***If our jaw bone is
exceeding the speed
limit***

one of the most insulting narcissistic traits that our church's are full of , is that some many so called Christians think they are better than other people, even people in their own congregation

But God sees us as sinners!

Not just some of us!

We all have sinned and fallen
short of the glory of God!

(we all need a savior)

We all need the
blood of the lamb
applied to the door
posts of our hearts!

This one has to be one of the three biggest stumbling blocks for Christians! When it comes to wrestling with the flesh over this narcissistic trait we all are wrestling with a very big fat man!

And he is just oozing muscles out of every where.

We all love praise! The more we get the better we like it. To be criticized instead of being praised is a real insult to my ego

this is a topic that can go a long ways, but I will try to address what is a constant struggle with me.

Matthew 7:21

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 7:22

Many will say to me on that day,
'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in
your name and in your name drive
out demons and in your name
perform many miracles?'

Matthew 7:23

Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'

this person that is talking to
Jesus knows of Jesus!

he has a desire to bear good fruit
through works

the real question is !!! Is this person doing the will of the father? Is he doing what God wants him to do ? Or is he doing what he wants to do for God?

that is a real deep soul searching ear opening question for me! Who am I doing this for? Did God call me to do this? What is the motive of the heart - Gods glory or my glory?

Thing is we all struggle with
surrendering our lives to someone
else! And letting them be in
control.

John 3:18 CJB

18 Those who trust in him are not judged; those who do not trust have been judged already, in that they have not trusted in the one who is God's only and unique Son.

John 3:19 CJB

19 “Now this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, but people loved the darkness rather than the light. Why? Because their actions were wicked.

we all have desires to be
“important” to be remembered!
I found an interesting article the
other day, about church shootings

CHURCH SHOOTINGS ARE
BECOMING MUCH MORE
COMMON

Yet the existing data suggests churches aren't more or less vulnerable to gun violence than other publicly accessible spaces.

by FRANCIE DIEP NOV 6, 2017

When criminologist Dallas Drake and two interns first searched for church shootings in the United States, they found 137 instances between 1980 and 2005, the majority of them causing no deaths.

More recently, Drake decided to update the database, and found a disturbing trend:

There were more shootings in Christian churches between 2006 and 2016—147 of them—than in the 25 years prior. (The database does not include non-Christian houses of worship, such as mosques or synagogues.)

Yet the data suggests churches aren't any more or less likely to be sites of gun violence in the U.S. than other publicly accessible spaces. "It's almost that there isn't any place that's not at risk,"

says Drake, the senior researcher at the Center for Homicide Research, an independent non-profit based in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Drake and his team haven't finished analyzing their 2006–16 data yet, so they don't know those shootings' death counts or circumstances.

Drake has an idea, however. "I think that, as a society, we're giving too much attention and credit to offenders," he says. "We need to stop naming the offender over and over again and showing the photograph."

We need to stop saying, 'This is the worst shooting in X number of years,' because that just gives potential shooters a mark to try to beat."

References

<https://psmag.com/news/church-shootings-are-becoming-much-more-common>

our narcissist traits is a great tool for Satan! He uses it to get us to steal God's glory for ourselves. He manipulates us with statements like "look at all you have done for God! And look how he is treating you!"