

Self-Pity is a PIT

After prayer this morning while sitting at my desk, I was looking at the word *self-pity*. I saw in that word the word *pit*. I am of the opinion that this pit is one of the worst kinds to be trapped in. It centers on self. It is the absorption of self. It devalues, *poor me!*

- ❖ The pit Joseph found himself cast in was undeserved (Genesis 37:20).
- ❖ The pit David found himself in was a “horrible pit” (Psalms 40:2).
- ❖ The mouth of a strange woman is a deep pit (Proverbs 22:14).
- ❖ Men fall into the very pit that they dig intentionally for another (Ecclesiastes 10:8).
- ❖ Seven times in Revelation is mentioned a bottomless pit.

All of these pits must be avoided. The pit of self-pity must be discerned and avoided likewise. I remember hearing as a child that “Self-pity is the first step of backsliding.” If it isn’t the first step, it sure is one of the early steps.

I heard Bro. Johnny Godair, who most often will tell some interesting story before he preaches. Read the following about *The Pit*.

The Pit

A man fell into a pit and couldn’t get himself out.

A SUBJECTIVE person came along and said: “I FEEL for you down there.”

An OBJECTIVE person came along and said: “It’s logical that someone would fall down there.”

A CHRISTIAN SCIENTIST came along and said: “You only THINK you are in a pit.”

A PHARISEE said: “Only BAD people fall into a pit.”

A NEWS-REPORTER wanted the exclusive story on his pit.

A FUNDAMENTALIST said: "You DESERVE your pit."

A CALVINIST said: "If you'd been saved, you'd never have fallen into that pit."

A WESLEYAN said: "You were saved and still fell into that pit."

A CHARISMATIC said: "Just confess that you're not in that pit."

A REALIST said: "That's a PIT."

An I.R.S. agent asked him if he were paying the taxes on the pit.

The COUNTY INSPECTOR asked if he had a special permit to dig a pit.

An EVASIVE person came along and avoided the subject of the pit altogether.

A SELF-PITYING person said: "You haven't seen anything until you've seen MY PIT!!"

A BOOKIE said: "CHANCES are that anyone could fall into a pit.

AN OPTIMIST said: "Things COULD be worse."

A PESSIMIST said: "Things WILL get worse!!"

JESUS, seeing the man, took him by the hand and LIFTED HIM OUT of the pit.

~Kenneth D. Filkins

-RWT