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## Viewpoints

*Observing events in our modern world from the viewpoint of our ascended Savior.*

### Fools ~ November 15, 2013

*If we think too highly of ourselves, we may earn this title.*

[Online Version & Archive](#)

“Morons!”

That’s the one-word reaction a person posted in the comment section to a news article. The article reports how four college-aged men cornered and captured a yearling whitetail deer. Now they face a total of \$1,700 in fines for illegal pursuit and possession of protected wildlife.

And how did authorities catch these men? Because the culprits posted video and photos of their deed on Instagram, a popular photo-sharing tool. An anonymous tipster informed conversation officers of the postings. Officers identified and questioned the culprits, who “after extensive questioning” admitted to capturing not just one deer, but two.

I have no doubts that over the years there have been many instances of illegal harassment and capture of wildlife. Probably there was some bragging about it, too. But today’s digital tools offer incredibly efficient ways to brag up your story. And this is enticing to someone who thinks so highly of himself that he’s too dumb to realize how digital braggadocio is also evidence for the authorities.

The dictionary defines “moron,” as cited above, as a person lacking good judgment. The Bible prefers the word “fool.” In addition, the Bible also exposes the subtle issues that accompany a fool’s lack of good judgment. Such as pride.

When *pride* comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom (Proverbs 11:2)

*Pride* goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall. Better to be lowly in spirit and among the oppressed than to share plunder with the proud. Whoever gives heed to instruction prospers, and blessed is he who trusts in the LORD (Proverbs 16:18-20)

People who engage in illegal conduct and then get themselves caught by their prideful braggadocio aren’t just fools lacking sound judgment, they’re sinners who’ve earned God’s eternal wrath. And God does not suffer fools gladly.

But we don't have to brag about illegal activities on Instagram to fall into the same sin of pride. Every time we're proud of our accomplishments, to the exclusion of Christ, we've fallen into the sin of pride.

The Apostle Paul accomplished unparalleled success in his work for the Savior, yet he believed what the Spirit moved him to write:

**Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God; He has made us competent... ( 2 Cor 3:5-6).**

**For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose (Philp 2:13).**

And in case someone associates humility with a lack of confidence, remember these words from the Apostle: **"For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline"** (2 Tim 1:7).

How confident and wise the person who confesses the in-born pride that lurks within each of us and is raised up in the humble yet powerful faith that Jesus has forgiven our sins. And how confident and wise the person who uses this faith to grasp this promise: **"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"** (Philippians 4:13). Such a person will have much to brag about... in his Savior Jesus.\*

*Source Material (Links may become inactive over time.)*

[Four Men Face Fines](#) @ news12.com

*\*Let him who boasts boast in the Lord" (2 Cor 10:17).*

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*Blessings to you and your loved ones, Pastor Mike Nitz*

