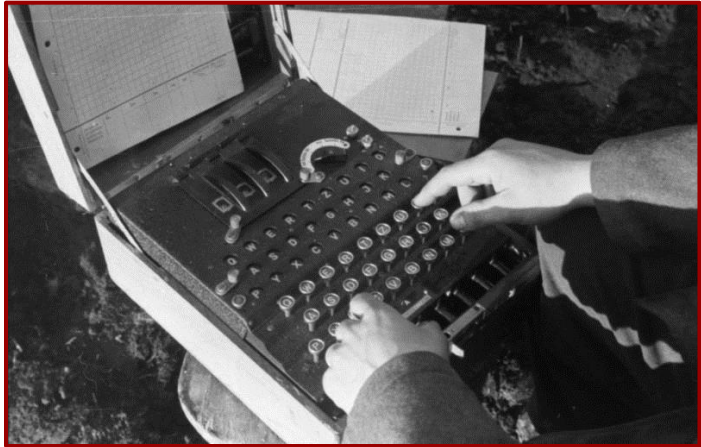


# The Unbreakable Enigma Machine

The Enigma was a supposedly unbreakable code machine that the Germans were using during World War II to communicate military messages leading to many victories for the Germans and many deaths for the British and the Allies.

The odds of guessing the code of the Enigma machine were one in more than 14 million million million. Even if the code breakers made headway on one day, the code was changed every day. For many months, the code stumped the Allies' code breakers. Finally, however, they had a breakthrough.



The breakthrough came from a weakness of the human heart. The movie, *The Imitation Game*, described the breakthrough. Out of respect for, and fear of, Hitler the Germans habitually signed their Enigma machine encoded messages with the salute, *Heil Hitler*.

This salute was very predictable. The pride and ambition of Hitler and the idolatry and fear of the Germans led to the breaking of the unbreakable code machine.

It is estimated that the breaking of the Enigma machine's code ended the war two years earlier with an allied victory that saved hundreds of thousands of lives.

The lesson in all of this?

Proverbs 16:18 states: *Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.*

Pride leads to a fall for three reasons:

1. **Pride evidences a lack of trust and confidence in God.** Yet we are designed to trust and depend upon God, rather than ourselves.
2. **God opposes the proud person.** 1 Peter 5:5 declares: *Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."*
3. **We are designed to take our greatest satisfaction in God** and when we don't, our hearts create an idol that will disappoint and deceive us.

So, whether because we are designed to trust God, or that God opposes the proud, or that we will fall victim to our own idolatry, let our hearts praise God and God only!