

**BAIT OF SATAN**  
**SESSION 4 – How Spiritual Vagabonds are Born**

**AVENGING YOURSELF**

**Romans 12:17-20 (NKJV)** – 17 Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. 18 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. 19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but *rather* give place to wrath; for it is written, “*Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,*” says the Lord. 20 Therefore “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.” 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

**DELEGATING AUTHORITY**

**Romans 13:1 (NKJV)** - Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.

- All authority (leadership) is appointed by God.

Harsh Leaders – Why does God place His servants, His children underneath leaders who make serious mistakes, and some who are wicked? For example, Samuel under Eli (Head Priest and Judge) with sons Hophni and Phinehas.

**1 Samuel 3:1 (NKJV)** - Now the boy Samuel ministered to the LORD before Eli. And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; *there was* no widespread revelation.

- Samuel did not pick up the offense because he knew it was not his place to judge God’s leader.
- It is not children’s responsibility to correct fathers ... it is the father’s responsibility to correct children.

**OPPORTUNITIES TO BE OFFENDED**

In the church there are tremendous opportunities to get offended

- Most of the times it was not the problem of the leader ... it is our immaturity.
- Who put the harsh leader in the leadership position?
  - Bible says that you are to obey the leader unless he tell you to sin.
  - You are still to honor and respect him regardless.
  - Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego

**Isaiah 55:12 (NKJV)** - “For you shall go out with joy, And be led out with peace; The mountains and the hills Shall break forth into singing before you, And all the trees of the field shall clap *their*

NOTES

hands.

### **DID GOD TELL YOU TO LEAVE?**

People leave a church/ministry because of an offense (90%).

- Offended people gravitate to each other.

When God is not speaking, He is SPEAKING

- Don't change anything, keep doing what you are doing.

You do not get to choose where you go to church.

- **1 Corinthians 12:18 (NKJV)** - But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased.
- **Psalm 92:13-14 (NKJV)** – 13 Those who are planted in the house of the LORD Shall flourish in the courts of our God. 14 They shall still bear fruit in old age; They shall be fresh and flourishing,

Transplanting a tree over and over will make them die.

Adversity will make a trees roots go deeper (dry weather)

### **THOSE WHO ARE PLANTED-FLOURISH**

If you leave a church because of an offense, the next time it gets easier to leave because of an offense ... (your root system dwarfs)

**Psalm 1:1-2 (NKJV)** – 1 Blessed *is* the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; 2 But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.

**Psalm 119:165 (KJV)** – Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.

**Psalm 1:3 (NKJV)** - He shall be like a tree  
Planted by the rivers of water,  
That brings forth its fruit in its season,  
Whose leaf also shall not wither;  
And whatever he does shall prosper.

- If we allowed the Holy Spirit to work in our lives during adversity, it would make us sweeter in our fruit.

### **GROUNDING IN THE LORD**

**Mark 4:16-17 (KJV)** – 16 And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness; 17 And have no root in

themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended.

- These are not sinners.
- These people are offended because they have not allowed his/her roots to go down.
  - When you leave out of an offense, your root system dwarfs.
    - Leave church, marriage, etc...
    - You become a spiritual vagabond (wanderers).

### SPIRITUAL WANDERERS

Farming (Cain) is harder than shepherding (Abel). Cain and Abel were not ignorant.

**Genesis 4:4-5 (NKJV)** – 4 Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering, 5 but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.

God will not accept you just the way you are, but He will accept you if you repent.

**Genesis 4:7 (NKJV)** – “If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire *is* for you, but you should rule over it.”

- Offense is the doorway to sin.
- Cain: Offense → Rage → Betrayal → Murder
- Cain started out serving God and ends up murdering his brother

**Genesis 4:11-12 (NKJV)** – 11 “So now you *are* cursed from the earth, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. 12 “When you till the ground, it shall no longer yield its strength to you. A fugitive and a vagabond you shall be on the earth.”

**Genesis 4:14 (NKJV)** – “Surely You have driven me out this day from the face of the ground; I shall be hidden from Your face; I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond on the earth, and it will happen *that* anyone who finds me will kill me.”

- Persecution complex. Everyone out to get me (isolation)
- Offended people become spiritual wanderers