

THE BAIT OF SATAN

SESSION 11 – Revenge: The Trap

Luke 17:1 (NKJV) - Then He said to the disciples, “It is impossible that no offenses should come, but woe to him through whom they do come!”

NOTES

What you do with an offense determines your future – you will either become stronger or bitter.

THE TRAP

Skandalon (The Greek word for “offend”): The bait stick of a trap. The word signifies “to set a trap” in someone’s way. The bait goes on the skandalon.

REFUSING TO LET GO

People refuse to let go because one feels that the person owes him/her something. In actuality you are setting yourself up to be the judge, but God is the only judge.

- Holding on is unfulfilled revenge.
- Revenge is your payment

THE ROOT OF BITTERNESS

Bitterness is just unfulfilled revenge. An offense that is allowed to take root in a person’s heart.

- It will defile you.

Hebrews 12:14-2 (NKJV) – 14 Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord; 15 looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled.

- Roots start from a seed, and the seed is the offense.
- If the seed is watered and nurtured, it will grow to a very destructive plant in your life and defile you.

2 Samuel 13:1- (NKJV) – 1 After this Absalom the son of David had a lovely sister, whose name was Tamar; and Amnon the son of David loved her. 2 Amnon was so distressed over his sister Tamar that he became sick; for she was a virgin. And it was improper for Amnon to do anything to her.

UNFULFILLED REVENGE

Absalom has had the offense seed growing in his heart for five years. Against his Dad, David.

- He begins to steal people’s hearts and he thinks that he is justified in doing it.
- He takes over Israel and marches on the throne with soldiers.

- You must confront offenses.
- Absalom is put to death, not by David, but possibly by the Judgment of God.
- He was a potential king but his whole life was destroyed by unfulfilled revenge (offense to bitterness to revenge).

CAPTIVITY

Romans 12:17-19 (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.

James 4:12 (NKJV) - There is one Lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy. Who are you to judge another?

James 5:9 (NKJV) - Do not grumble [complain/gripe] against one another, brethren, lest you be condemned. Behold, the Judge is standing at the door!

- God is the just Judge.
- When we determine that someone owes us something, we put ourselves in the place of the Judge (God’s seat).

KINGDOM THINKING

Holiness (from the Hebrew word kadosh): A cut above.

God is an infinite cut above his creation (us).

God does not think or talk like us, He is saying

Matthew 5:38-39 (NKJV) – 38 You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ 39 But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also. 40 “If anyone wants to sue you and take away your tunic, let him have your cloak also. 41 “And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two. 42 “Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to borrow from you do not turn away.

- Revenge is the way of darkness