



No. 2

The Stronghold of Rejection

EMBRACING REJECTION WILL RESULT IN REBELLION AND ARROGANCE

If we try to deal with rejection on our own, as Cain did, we will inevitably react the same way Cain did. We read in Genesis 4:1-10 how Cain was not prepared to humble himself and submit to God, and to His love and compassion, instead he became arrogant, to the point of mocking God. Look what Cain said, when God asked about his brother Abel: **"I do not know, am I my brother's keeper?"**

Cain was invited by God the Father to humble himself and confess. If you are a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ and you have embraced rejection, you can be sure the Holy Spirit has also tried to prompt you to let go and to receive His ministry, to set you free from this bondage. **Actually, Jesus has already set you free, but you have not been able to appropriate the victory at the cross for you.**

ALLOWING REJECTION AND OTHER STRONGHOLDS IN YOUR LIFE MEANS DENYING GOD'S WORD

Most Christians wrongly think they have the choice to be saved by the Grace of God and yet continue to live their old life. **Rejection connects you directly to sin and unrighteousness.**

Ephesians 4:20-24

"But as for you, not in this manner did you learn the Christ, since, indeed, as is the case, you heard and in Him were taught just as truth is in Jesus, that you have put off once for all with reference to your former manner of life the old self who is being corrupted according to the passionate desires of deceit; moreover, that you are being constantly renewed with reference to the spirit of your mind; and that you have put on once for all the new self who after God was created in righteousness and holiness of truth."

This Scripture shows **"just as truth is in Jesus"**, He expects us to obey the truth and to leave the old life, embracing completely the new life in Christ. **Rejection and all other strongholds are the result of sin and are no longer ours.** To accept salvation from Jesus and live as if we were unsaved is dishonouring to God and displays disobedience.

There has been a culture in the church which allows Christians to live with the works and repercussions of sin; it is pollution and darkness in their souls. God forbids this. Many Christian counsellors, instead of pointing the person with rejection to Jesus, help them to contemplate rejection, to indulge in the flesh, and to become self-dependent.

We can experience pain, sorrow, rejection, persecution, challenges, trials and tribulations, yet we need to experience these as new creations, not according to the "old self". **The new life of Christ in us by the Holy Spirit gives us the power and grace to reject ungodliness.**

Titus 2:11-12

"for the grace of God bringing salvation appeared to all men, instructing us that denying impiety and worldly cravings we should live discreetly and righteously and piously in the midst of this present age".

Impiety and worldly cravings mean anything contrary to God's Word. Receiving salvation and then abdicating responsibilities as sons and daughters of the living God is dishonouring to God, and worse, allows strongholds in our lives. The Word tells us to pull down strongholds, not to keep

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them. Because of this, we put ourselves in the darkness and affect others around us. Strongholds prevent us from living a victorious life and steal our faith to receive the promises of God.

The most common strongholds Christians keep are rejection, bitterness, fear, anxiety, worry, guilt, condemnation and addictions. These strongholds will always result in doubt and unbelief.

John 12:46

“I, in contradistinction to all others, have come a light into the world, in order that everyone who places his trust in me may not remain in the sphere of the darkness.”

Jesus does not want His sons and daughters to remain in the sphere of darkness. We are in the light and we are not to have any darkness in our souls. Our spirit is perfect by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, however our soul can be tormented by rejection and other strongholds. We also need to realise if a Christian embraces rejection as his/her identity, there will be oppression from the enemy. Demonic powers will attack the disobedient Christian. Abiding by God's Word protects us from the oppression of the enemy.

We are not to contemplate who has rejected us or how it makes us feel, rather, we are to contemplate Jesus, our new life in Him, the light, the love of God and His full acceptance, instead of contemplating somebody rejecting us.

Again, if you choose to embrace rejection, you will experience its repercussions: anger, resentment, pain, fear insecurity and more. You will open a door to the enemy and you have already fallen into the trap of the enemy, to make you react in the flesh, away from the spiritual victorious life Jesus has given you.

God has given us authority to reject the works of the devil.

2 Corinthians 10:3-6

For, though we are ordering our behavior in the sphere of human experience, not in accordance with mere human considerations are we waging warfare [against evil], for the weapons of our warfare are not human but mighty in God's sight, resulting in the demolition of fortresses, demolishing reasonings and every haughty mental elevation which lifts itself up against the experiential knowledge [which we believers have] of God, and leading captive every thought into the obedience to the Christ, and being in readiness to discipline every careless, apathetic hearing of and disobedience to the Word [if there remain any still disobedient] when your obedience [to me and my apostolic authority] shall be fulfilled.

Romans 8:1-2

“Therefore, now, there is not even one bit of condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, for the law of the Spirit, that of the life in Christ Jesus, freed you once for all from the law of the sinful nature and of death”.

2 Corinthians 5:17

“So that, assuming that anyone is in Christ, he is a creation new in quality. The antiquated, out-of-date things [which do not belong to the new life in Christ Jesus] have passed away. Behold, all things have become new in quality”.

2 Corinthians 5:21

“He who did not know sin in an experiential way, on behalf of us and instead of us, was made [the representative of] sin, in order that, as for us, we might become a righteousness of God in Him”.

Our righteousness in Christ does not allow us to live like unrighteous unsaved people. We represent Jesus and we have been set free from every bondage. LIVE THIS NEW LIFE OF VICTORY!