



No. 3

The New Creation can't feel rejected

Only the "old self" can be provoked to rejection

Rejection represents a lie. The lie is: YOU ARE NOT WORTHY

In Lecture 1 and 2 we studied Cain, who felt rejected, consequently, he felt less worthy than his brother, which is also jealousy; he felt inferior. He was not inferior or less worthy than his brother Abel, but he felt inferior. This is why we are to be very careful with our feelings and emotions. Following our feelings and emotions instead of God's Word and the prompting of the Holy Spirit will ignite the flesh.

Ephesians 1:3-6

"May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ be eulogized (*blessed*), the One who conferred benefactions upon us in the sphere of every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, even as He selected us out for himself in Him before the foundations of the universe were laid, to be holy ones and without blemish before His searching, penetrating gaze; in love having previously marked us out to be placed as adult sons through the intermediate agency of Jesus Christ for himself according to that which seemed good in His heart's desire, resulting in praise of the glory of His grace which He freely bestowed upon us in the Beloved."

Our Heavenly Father has given us 'THE GLORY OF HIS GRACE' in the beloved. We believers are His beloved. We need to recognise that this is not just human love. This is the love of God that considers us precious: **as precious as His Son Jesus**. This reality alone should heal any rejection in us. We need to realise how powerful and amazing God's love for us is. The sacrificial life and death of Jesus on our behalf is the love that melts rejection and all other "earthly" pains and sorrows.

God the Father said in Matthew 3:17

"And behold, a voice out of heaven, saying, **This is my Son, the beloved One, in whom I take pleasure.**"

God the Father calls Jesus His beloved, and He also calls us His beloved. How wonderful!

Dealing with rejection in relationships

Feeling rejected by a family member, a friend or a brother or sister in Christ is hurtful. In this life we are victims of rejection because we have not been told how to manage our emotions. Once we are born again by the Spirit of God, we have the wisdom, authority and love of God to disarm and nullify any negative emotion. **It is actually our obligation to reject anything which is not from God.**

We need to first discern if somebody is rejecting us for something ungodly we said or did. If this is the case, we are to go to the person and ask for forgiveness. Once we have done that, we are free and are not to consider the issue any longer. If we are rejected for no known reason, or for standing for righteousness, we must not accept any responsibility and must let go, because REJECTION IS NOT OUR IDENTITY.

Yes, there is a need to deal with past issues, but only for the purpose of once - and once for all - leaving them behind. We are not to magnify the works of the devil. This, again, is what the Bible describes as demolishing strongholds or fortresses (2 Corinthians 10:5). We all have been rejected or felt rejected, but we should not carry any repercussions of past or present rejection. **God wants us to embrace His divine sacrificial love and truth and not this lie from the enemy which magnifies self.**

Either we put these strongholds under the power of the Holy Spirit and God's Word, or we will be victims of the works of the devil as a result of our own doing. Jesus has taken all our sin, pain, sorrow, sickness and has set us free, **we need to take our full inheritance in Christ.**

Our new life in Christ does not depend on what people say about us. It is imperative that we, believers in the Lord Jesus Christ know of God's approval instead of people's disapproval. Feeling rejected has brought many people to be depending on people's approval. **Seeking people's approval is exhausting because there is no end, no reward, no resolution as long as someone continues to depend on others for their happiness: it develops into co-dependence, which is toxic.**

Our fulfilment is in Christ. Apart from Jesus, there is nothing which will satisfy us. Our Heavenly Father has all we need and desire.

Case study:

This is a real story a very influential pastor shared with my wife and I about 20 years ago. This pastor never knew his father. He was bullied and was called 'bastard' at school. This went on for years until he was a teenager. When he became a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, his life changed. Now he had his Heavenly Father and he knew he was loved and accepted.

He said, **"I did not care anymore if they called me bastard, I knew who I was in Christ and I was not a victim anymore."** This man lived with rejection until he embraced the truth that sets free. This is a testimony of how embracing God's love and acceptance brings freedom and healing to our souls.

1 Corinthians 3:1-3

"As for myself, I also, brethren, was not able to speak to you as I would to those dominated by the Holy Spirit, but as I would to those dominated by the evil nature, as I would to those in Christ who are still immature spiritually. Milk I fed you, not solid food, for not yet were you able to assimilate the latter. In fact, not even yet at the present time are you able to do so. For, in so far as there are among you jealousy and strife, are you not those dominated by the evil nature, and are you not ordering your manner of life as an unsaved man would do?"

At Pentecost, the apostle Peter was a new man, preaching with authority without fear. All of a sudden, he displayed spiritual maturity simply by relying on the Holy Spirit.

We believers are indwelt by the Holy Spirit, the same as Peter. He was changed immediately and so are we. The problem is when we don't acknowledge it and keep on living our old life.

Hebrews 5:12-14

In fact, when at this time you are under moral obligation to be teachers by reason of the extent of time [you have been under instruction], again you are in need of someone to be teaching you what are the rudimentary things of the very beginning in the oracles of God, and have become and still are such as have need of milk, not of solid food. For everyone whose sole diet is milk, is inexperienced in a message which is righteous in quality, for he is a [spiritually] immature person. But solid food belongs to those who are [spiritually] mature, to those who on account of long usage have their powers of perception exercised to the point where they are able to discriminate between both that which is good in character and that which is evil.

God wants us to develop spiritually to have the powers of perception to discern both what is good in character and what is evil. He wants us to be free in Christ, to experience the power we have by the Holy Spirit and the wonderful divine sacrificial love we have received from our Heavenly Father. Our mission on earth is to share these wonderful attributes with others for the glory of God.