

The Bondage of Emotions, Feelings & Offences

The other day, I said:

There are two things you never want to do as a born-again child of God, and these two points are extremely important to know. I'll discuss number one today, and number two tomorrow:

#1: Never, ever say anything out of your mouth that is contrary to God's Word.

So today, I will continue:

The second most important thing to do as a child of God is:

#2: Refuse to hold anything against anyone, and never permit yourself to become offended at anyone.

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Offense will rob you of every blessing that Jesus Christ purchased for you. Jesus told us not to hold anything against anyone in Mark 11:25: **And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.** Staying offended is one of the most dangerous things you can find yourself doing. If

Satan can get you offended over anything, it will immediately disrupt the flow of God's blessings to your life and through your life.

As a believer, you want to make sure you don't permit yourself to get your feelings hurt, or permit yourself to become offended. Satan uses hurt feelings and offenses to come against you to take the Word of God out of you, or make the Word of God of none effect.

Hurt feelings, or what some people refer to as "*damaged emotions*," result when someone becomes offended at what someone has done to them - and the world has no cure for hurt feelings and offenses. All the world is able to offer are "meds."

The God-kind of Love is the Solution

So many people have been messed up emotionally that they can't even enjoy daily life. But the way the world operates isn't the way we operate. The world offers no real solution to unforgiveness and offenses. As for as the church, the body of Christ, our solution to unforgiveness and offenses is real simple: ***get over it.***

You're never going to feel like doing this, but you do it by faith, and by being a doer of the Word of God. Love never fails. You can't afford to hold on to offenses and unforgiveness. Doing so will destroy your health. God knew it would, and He warned us about it repeatedly in the Word. The God kind of love does not get offended, it takes no account of evil done to it, and pays no attention to a suffered wrong.

Love endures long and is patient and kind; love never is envious nor boils over with jealousy, is not boastful or vainglorious, does not display itself haughtily. It is not conceited (arrogant and inflated with pride); it is not rude (unmannerly) and does not act unbecomingly. Love (God's love in us) does not insist on its own rights or its own way, for it is not self-seeking; it is not touchy or fretful or resentful; it takes no account of the evil done to it [it pays no attention to a suffered wrong]. It does not rejoice at injustice and unrighteousness, but rejoices when right and truth prevail. Love bears up under anything and everything that comes, is ever ready to believe the best of every person, its hopes are fadeless under all circumstances, and it endures everything [without weakening]. Love

never fails [never fades out or becomes obsolete or comes to an end]. As for prophecy (the gift of interpreting the divine will and purpose), it will be fulfilled and pass away; as for tongues, they will be destroyed and cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away [it will lose its value and be superseded by truth]. 1 Corinthians 13: 4-8 AMP

Offenses Hindering God's Will in your Life

One of the primary reasons a person doesn't go back to a certain church that they attended at one time, or only attended once, is all because somebody either said something to them that offended them, or someone failed to say something to them.

I know of a lady who started coming to some of my services. I asked her what church she used to attend, and she mentioned a minister I knew of. This minister is known for preaching a pretty good Word. I asked why she didn't go there anymore, and I believe her story was that an usher or someone wanted her to quiet down her child. Well, that offended her, so she never went back. I thought, *"Well, she's really going to love me!"* Not long after that, she got upset at me over a similar situation.

People can get offended and fall out of fellowship with others over the most ridiculous and petty incidents. It can happen over their children, over a parking spot, not being asked to sing, or even being asked to sit in a different seat. Then they proceed to tell as many people as they can how someone at church upset them, was rude to them, or embarrassed them. It is as if no one in the world is allowed to talk to them that way, or treat them that way. They're not going to let anyone get by with it.

If you listen to gossip, it's tantamount to committing gossip. The only way gossip can spread is someone's got to say it, and someone's got to hear it. This is why some people fail to receive healing or walk in the fulness of God. If you're not receiving healing from God, you want to ask Him why. And brace yourself, because you probably aren't going to like the answer. He said in

James 1:5, **If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all *men* liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.**

From whence *come* wars and fightings among you? *come they* not hence, *even* of your lusts that war in your members? Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume *it* upon your lusts. Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. James 4:1-4

Too often people make their decisions based on their feelings and emotions - I'm talking about born again Christians that seemingly cannot get over what happened to them!

If you haven't heard their story or complaint, they want to rehash it for you. They carry these offenses with them throughout their lives. They can't wait to tell someone the story of what happened to them. They refuse to let go of things, and they refuse to forgive. These people just want their own way.

If Satan can get you offended at the gospel, he'll accommodate you and keep you from growing spiritually and out of fellowship with a large portion of the body of Christ. Then you'll stop tithing and praying like you used to, and the next thing you know, you'll be cold and lukewarm at best. You'll know God, but you'll be out of fellowship with Him, all because you allowed your feelings, emotions and carnal nature to have their way. You won't be longsuffering with others and you won't submit to spiritual authority.

Staying offended causes you to get into pride and you'll be too proud to do what you know you should. You'll be too proud to love everyone and submit to one another (Ephesians 5:22). You'll be too proud to judge yourself and to make the necessary changes.

Remember, God wishes above all things that you prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers (3 John 2).

Your Word of faith pastor,

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