

THE TRUTH ABOUT REJECTION

Pastor Katy Reeves

PART 1

Introduction:

We will be looking into the subject of rejection. If we don't understand the truth concerning rejection and the role it plays in the Christians life, it can have a disastrous effect on the Believer's life. It can hinder and even stop a person from fulfilling the call that God has placed on their life. It has the potential to bring failure and defeat; but knowing the truth about rejection will bring success and victory in every area of our lives.

I. John 1:1-13

A. Our God is a Triune God.

B. One God made up of three Persons.

C. Here we see that Jesus was the Second Person of the Godhead and He was present at creation.

D. In the redemption plan mapped out before the foundation of the world was laid, it was decided and agreed upon by the Godhead that the Second Person would lay aside His divinity and enter the Earth legally--through the womb of a woman.

E. He would be mankind's Redeemer; for they would rebel, just as the fallen angels did, but this time, provision would already be made for their recovery.

F. And so, a people were chosen to be set apart for God's plan.

G. A people who would be told about the coming Redeemer so they could recognize Him when He arrived.

H. But, they didn't recognize Him; they should have--all the signs were there pointing to who Jesus was.

I. Instead, they did not receive Him--they rejected Him.

J. BUT! I love the buts in the Bible. To those who accept Him, He gives the power to become a literal child of God!

1. To reach this potential one must surrender his will to Father God and accept the sacrifice of Jesus and enter covenant through His Name and Blood.

2. This sonship process does not come through physical birth, but through joining covenant with the Most High God.

K. We are talking about rejection.

L. Jesus knew from before the foundation of the world was laid that He would be rejected by the very people that were supposed to receive Him. But, He came anyway! He did it anyway!

M. He didn't let rejection stop Him.

N. How could He fulfill His destiny in the midst of so much rejection?

1. His trust; His confidence; His faith--was in God.
2. He never doubted that the plan would be successful.
3. His focus was always on the love of God.
4. Not on people. Not on what was said or done to Him.
5. Not on how He was received by people.
6. His focus was always on pleasing Father God.

This is key! This is the answer to rejection. So we should not be surprised when we encounter rejection in this world. We are not above our Master.

We need to recognize rejection when it comes and follow Jesus' example in dealing with it. Use it for the good.

II. Philippians 3:8-11

A. Let's talk about the 'doctrine of suffering'.

1. This is a doctrine of demons that Satan has infiltrated the Church with.

2. This doctrine teaches Christians that by submitting to such works of the devil as sickness, lack, and oppression is considered 'suffering' for God and that sometimes God causes this or allows this in our lives for some reason only He knows.

B. The suffering doctrine of religious tradition is a destructive counterfeit of the true Bible teaching on the suffering that the Believer must be prepared to go through.

C. This doctrine is based on these basic suppositions:

1. Since suffering happens and since God controls everything-- then suffering is either authored by God or allowed by God.

2. If God authors or allows suffering it must be:

a. As the punishment (loving correction, discipline) of His children.

c. So that He can have opportunities to demonstrate His faithfulness to us in hard times.

3. So we in turn can demonstrate our trust in Him in spite of adverse circumstances.

4. To test our free will and make a way for us to grow spiritually.

D. This doctrine sounds very religious but the danger is two-fold:

1. It places the Believer in a state of non-resistance to the devil and his darkness.

2. It places the blame, whether called that or not, directly or indirectly on God.

E. The fruits of this teaching are:

1. Premature death

2. Unnecessary suffering

3. The belief that God has left, abandoned, or forsaken us

4. Loss of faith

5. Living in hypocrisy--believing a sickness is God's will, yet seeking to be rid of it medically.

F. The primary error of this teaching is that God is running, or controlling everything that happens in the Earth.

G. This is simply not true!

H. God the Father is on His throne in Heaven and Jesus is seated at His right hand and Holy Spirit is here, in the Earth with us.

I. Father and Jesus have ALREADY done all they are going to do until Jesus returns and gathers His Saints.

J. Father sent His only Son to redeem us from the curse of the law and sowed His singular Seed into the Earth for the express purpose of producing and harvesting an abundant crop of sons of God!

K. Sons that look like, act like, and talk like Jesus!

1. Jesus set up an ongoing system to train and equip Believers to continue to act as Jesus did, say what Jesus said, and do what Jesus did.

2. Father sent Holy Spirit with the same power and the same gifts that He provided for Jesus in the Earth on the day of Pentecost.

3. Jesus delegated His authority to His followers.

4. The management of this Earth is left to us!

5. So, who is supposed to be running things here? The Bible tells us that there is a very real, Scriptural suffering that every serious Believer must face.

III. Hebrews 5:8

A. What did Jesus suffer?

B. We must be prepared to suffer it, too.

IV. Isaiah 50:5-6 and Philippians 2:8

A. Jesus didn't twist and squirm to avoid the lashes, blows, and other violence to His body.

B. Jesus was more mindful of the spirit than the body--the eternal rather than the natural.

C. From these verses, we see that Jesus suffered martyrdom through torture and death by execution.

D. Now, Christians do not have to suffer martyrdom unless they 'choose' to. It's a decision.

E. What else did Jesus suffer?

1. Religious persecution.

2. Demonic persecution.

3. REJECTION from His nation, His town, His friends, His family and His followers.

F. He also suffered:

1. Insult and Slander
2. Ridicule
3. Discrimination
4. Betrayal
5. False accusation
6. Religious and racial hatred
7. The resisting of all temptations and pressures that come from every direction.

CONCLUSION:

These are the sufferings that every Christian that is doing anything for the Kingdom of God can expect to suffer. We are talking about REJECTION. The truth about rejection is this: you can't 'cast it out'. It comes with being a follower of Jesus Christ. It is a weapon that Satan uses against us. Know this. Recognize it for what it is--a weapon that your enemy is using against you to stop your faith. Let's look at an example of how to deal with true, Biblical suffering in the account of Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna. This event has every kind of suffering we mentioned earlier. Listen and you tell me, 'Who won the victory here?'

PART 2

Introduction:

We should not be surprised when we encounter rejection in this world. We are not above our Master. We need to recognize rejection when it comes and follow Jesus' example in dealing with it. Use it for good. Rejection is just part of the package, we, as Christians, must be prepared to suffer for the Gospel's sake. Included in that package along with rejection is religious persecution, demonic persecution, insult and slander, ridicule, discrimination, betrayal, false accusation and religious and racial hatred. These are the sufferings that every Christian that is doing anything for the Kingdom of God can expect to suffer. Always remember that these are weapons that Satan uses against us. Recognize them and be prepared to fight the good fight of faith.

I. Isaiah 53:2,3

A. Jesus was destined to face rejection.

- B. Most of us have faced rejection in some form at some point in our lives.
- C. We all have been hurt by the sting of rejection.
 - 1. Family & friends
 - 2. Peers & colleagues
 - 3. Even church people

II. 2 Timothy 3:12

- A. Jesus, the Son of God was scorned, laughed at, and mocked at while He was on earth.
- B. He was totally rejected by His own people, the Jews.
- C. DON'T BE SURPRISED! When it happens to you.
- D. Understand this up front and be prepared to handle it.

III. Matthew 21:33-45

- A. Jesus is driving home a major point here in this parable.
- B. It is the key to winning the battle when Satan comes at you using the weapon of rejection.
- C. That key is this: it is the revelation that rejection is not your problem-- but theirs!
- D. The very Stone which the builders rejected and threw away has become the Cornerstone!
- E. How does that apply to us?
 - 1. The blessing that the Lord wants to bring into people's lives through YOU will be taken away from them and given to those who will appreciate it!
 - 2. Do you see God's attitude toward rejection?
 - 3. 'You don't want me, that's your choice; there are others who will receive me.'
 - 4. We will see this attitude over and over in Scripture.

IV. How did Jesus handle rejection? Luke 4:14-32

- A. Fearless! That's our Lord!
- B. He's teaching them the truth.
- C. They are amazed at His teaching.
- D. Then they remember how familiar they are with Him and His family.
- E. AND THEY GET OFFENDED: Who does He think He is...
- F. Jesus doesn't pay any attention to their changed attitude towards Him.
- G. NO, He continues to tell them the truth about their attitude.
 - 1. He was basically telling them, 'You don't have any faith in Me, and so you say, 'the miracles that we've heard about in other places, do here'; but what you don't realize is that just because you've known Me My whole life doesn't mean that you can receive miracles without faith.'
 - 2. The miracles you've heard about happened through the faith that those people had in Me.
- H. Whew! They got so mad they wanted to murder Him!

I. LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING: THE TRUTH NOT RECEIVED WILL BRING REJECTION TO YOU!

- 1. When people don't want to hear the truth, they will get mad and reject you.
- 2. RECOGNIZE this and handle it like Jesus.

J. Notice, He didn't get angry back at them.

- K. No, He just walked away.
 - 1. He left the anger with them and just walked away.
 - 2. He went to Capernaum and was a blessing to those people.

V. Matthew 22:1-14

- A. Here we see another aspect of rejection and how it's handled.
- B. When you think about a wedding feast/reception, you think family and

close friends.

C. The invitation was given and no one wanted to come.

D. Other things were more important to them.

E. Notice how this rejection was handled.

1. Put those murderers to death and burned the city.

2. Of course, we are not to do this to family and friends who reject us, but what we can gather from this is when we are wronged or hurt by others, leave it with God--He will avenge.

3. We are to destroy the offense. Let it go up in smoke and move on.

F. Even though Jesus suffered rejection from family and friends He didn't let that stop Him from inviting others into His life.

G. Jesus did not wallow in self-defeat or pity, but He geared Himself up for another task when the previous failed. We must be like Jesus, easily bouncing back to our feet when others reject us.

VI. Our instructions from Jesus on how to handle rejection: [Mark 6:7-11](#)

A. Whoever rejects you, and the truth you represent, Jesus says for you to depart from them.

B. Shake off the dust under your feet as a testimony against them and leave.

1. The Jews considered the dust from heathen lands as defiling as compared to the holy land, so to shake the dust of any place off their feet meant they recognized it as rejected by God.

2. Again, leave it with God.

C. Many of us face rejection in our lives from different people and situations.

D. The pain can be excruciating, but we are called to take up our cross and follow Him.

E. Unfortunately, many never seek healing from the Lord for their wounds and hurts.

F. This keeps you from fulfilling your highest potential in Christ.

VII. Psalm 118 IS the answer for healing from rejection!

- A. Whenever we experience the pain of rejection we must run to the Lord.
- B. We need a healing touch from Him.
- C. We need His grace and mercy.
- D. It is only Jesus Who can touch the very core of our inner being and heal our spirit-man.
- E. It is through spending time with Him:
 - 1. Praising Him
 - 2. Thanking Him
 - 3. Remembering how He CHOSE you!
 - 4. Remembering that IN HIM, you are accepted!
 - 5. Remembering that He will never leave you, nor forsake you
 - 6. Remembering that He has made you a ruler

CONCLUSION:

Let's wrap this up. We can expect rejection as part of the package of the sufferings that we, as Christians will experience in this world. Recognize rejection as a weapon that Satan will use against you to get you offended so you will lose your focus. Be prepared to handle rejection as Jesus did. DO NOT GET ANGRY BACK OR OFFENDED! WALK AWAY. LEAVE IT WITH JESUS. SEEK HEALING FROM THE WOUNDS OF REJECTION THROUGH INTIMATE TIME WITH FATHER GOD AND JESUS. Pray Psalm 118! Medicine for rejection! Intimacy with our God is the key to our inner healing from rejection and really all the sufferings that we can expect as we walk with Jesus through this world.