

Bait02 – What Do You Expect? – Luke 6:27-49

In our recent study of MARK – WHEN we got to the Crucifixion -  
I EXPECTED So MUCH MORE from the Disciples

I couldn't believe they so easily DESERTED Jesus

I couldn't believe they wouldn't even STAND UP for Jesus  
in his greatest hour of Need

I couldn't believe that instead being THERE for Jesus  
They ALL RAN & HID – like a bunch of cowards

Peter DENIED – 3 Times - that he even KNEW Jesus

I EXPECTED so MUCH MORE - From the Disciples

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But . . . Jesus DID NOT

Yes – Jesus WAS God  
so he KNEW the END - from the BEGINNING

But STILL – Jesus DID NOT EXPECT anything  
From the disciples – EVEN as he FACED the Cross

Jesus LOVED them - & he FORGAVE them  
& he DIED for them

With NO Expectations regarding their BEHAVIOR

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Their **ACTIONS** - & their **FAILURES** - **DIDN'T CHANGE** – **At All**

The **LOVE** - - & The **FORGIVENESS** - - & The **SACRIFICE**  
that **Jesus** made for **EACH** of them

Jesus **LOVED** & **FORGAVE** – Those **CLOSEST** to him

In the **SAME WAY** he did - the **Centurion** who **oversaw** his **death**

<p>What do <u><b>YOU EXPECT</b></u> From those closest to <u><b>YOU?</b></u></p>
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**Let's Pray**

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**Last week** – we **STARTED** a **New Series** called  
The **BAIT of SATAN**

& **I EXPLAINED** – In my **30 years** in **Church Leadership**

**BY FAR** the most **Productive BAIT**  
**I've seen** the **enemy use** to **ENTRAP Christians**

Is the **BAIT of OFFENSE**

BUT – I **explained** – The **OFFENSE** – is **ONLY the BAIT**

When **YOU** take the **BAIT of OFFENSE**  
& **BECOME OFFENDED**

**THAT is when the enemy (so often) ENTRAPS YOU**

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A person **OFFENDS YOU** – (*Especially* IN the **Church**) –  
**THAT is The BAIT**

**When** You **Take UP** that **OFFENSE** - & **BECOME OFFENDED**  
**THAT is the TRAP**

& **WHEN** the Enemy **ENTRAPUS US** –  
*By getting us to **BECOME OFFENDED***  
*(especially by someone in the church)*

We **often** spend **years** (or **even** a **lifetime**)  
**PRODUCING** - the **Works of the Flesh**

**Which** the **Enemy USES**  
to **Damage** – or **Destroy** - Other **Christians** & **Entire Churches**

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**BUT** – these msgs **BUILD** on **One-Another** - As we  
**LOOSELY follow** the Book “**The BAIT of SATAN**” by **John Bever**

& **So** – **You** really **NEED to Watch, Listen,** or **READ**  
the **FIRST Msg** - along with **THIS MSG**

If you <b><u>MISSED</u></b> the <b><u>First MSG</u></b> (called <b><u>The Bait of Satan</u></b> ) You can <b><u>Get it</u></b> on the “ <b><u>Word By Mail</u></b> ” Phone App
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**So – BACK to Today’s Focus**

**What DID you EXPECT**  
**from that Person who Offended You?**

**What did you EXPECT from them?**

**Doesn't it sound RIGHT for us to say,**

**“Well, I expected them to act like a Christian, I expected them to do what was RIGHT - - What I thought was RIGHT!”**

Really? **& what do you EXPECT of YOURSELF?**

**Do you expect YOURSELF to ACT like a CHRISTIAN?**  
**Do you expect YOURSELF to DO what is RIGHT?**

**Let's turn over to Luke Ch 6 - & Let's ask**  
**“Do I expect MYSELF to ACT like a Christian?”**

**Luke 6:27–28 (NLT)**

**27 “But to you who are willing to listen,** (have you ever met a Christian who is NOT willing to listen?) **I say, love your enemies!** (those you think are your enemies – inside the church) **Do good to those who hate you.** (those you think hate you – inside the church)

**28 Bless those who curse you.** (those you think are cursing you – inside the church) **Pray for those who hurt you.** (those you think are hurting you – inside the church)

Is **THIS** how we **Expect OURSELVES** to **ACT?**

**& then (just down) - Luke 6:32–33 (NLT)**

**32 “If you love only those who love you,** (inside the church) **why should you get credit for that? Even sinners love those who love them!** (outside the church)

**33 And if you do good only to those who do good to you, (inside the church) *why should you get credit?* Even sinners do that much! (outside the church)**

**Do these vs's make sense to us?**

**Isn't it WRONG – that IN the CHURCH  
Far Too Often – We IGNORE these Biblical Commands**

**When we are dealing with OTHER Christians**

**Especially other Christians - who have Offended us  
Or even who rub us (A little bit) the WRONG way**

Guys - **FAR Too Often** –  
**We Use the WORLD'S Standards**

To **decide** who **WE LOVE** - & who we will **DO GOOD TO**  
... **INSIDE the CHURCH**

& **WORSE** - **FAR Too Often**  
**We Use the WORLD'S Standards**

to **Justify** our **RESPONSE to people**  
who **have hurt** - or **offended us?**

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& **FAR, FAR Too Often** ... Our **NATURAL Response**  
to **those** who have **Offended us**

Is the **SAME NATURAL Response** – **AS UNBELIEVERS**

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& - Jesus goes on - **Luke 6:35-36 (NLT)**

**35 “Love your enemies!** (or those you think are your enemies – inside the church) **Do good to them.** (do what is good FOR them – inside the church) **Lend to them without expecting to be repaid. Then your reward from heaven will be very great, and you will truly be acting as children of the Most High,** (isn’t THIS what we should Expect of ourselves as Christians?) **for he** (The Most High) **is kind to those who are unthankful and wicked.** (in the church)

**36 You must be compassionate, just as** (in the same way as) **your Father is compassionate.**

**Seriously** – We **could LIVE** in these **vs’s FOREVER**  
**Couldn’t we?**

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& **then** in the **next Vs** (starting a new section)  
**Jesus** just **keeps rolling**

**Luke 6:37 (NLT)**

**37 “Do not judge others** (in the church) (Lstn Pls, here, this word means “to form a critical opinion of another”) (do not form a critical opinion of another person – in the church) (how many of us specialize in forming critical opinions of others?), **and you will not be judged. Do not condemn others** (in the church) (to condemn, is to pronounce someone worthy of punishment) (how often do we pronounce someone worthy of some type of punishment in the church?), **or it will all come back against you. Forgive others** (in the church), **and you will be forgiven.**

**These** are **Serious, Serious Warnings**

To **NOT Take** the **BAIT of SATAN** – **IN the church**

In **LUKE Ch 6** - Jesus **goes on** about **THIS Same Subject**  
From **v.27** – **all** the **way** to **v.49** (end of the ch)

This **would** be an **awesome section** for us to **Meditate on**  
**every day** - for a **WEEK** - or a **MONTH** - or a **YEAR!**

**AND ever day** – **APPLY** it – **TO OURSELVES**

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By **Simply ASKING OURSELVES**

**“Do I EXPECT MYSELF to act this way (as a Christian)”**

If **we** were to **Genuinely APPLY** –  
the **MANY Vs’s** in the **N.T.** – **on this Subject**

**I think we MAY Learn**

To **NOT EXPECT PERFECTION** Of **OTHERS**

While **Giving OURSELVES** – a **HUGE PASS** on our **Own Actions**

& we **MAY LEARN**

To **NOT** - SO **EASILY** – **TAKE** the **BAIT of SATAN**

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**Because** guys - **Most often** –

**THIS** is **NOT** the **type of LOVE** we **Walk In** – **IS IT?**

& – **isn’t there** a **chance** that **at least**

**PART** of the **Reason** - we **DON’T walk** in this **Love**

is **because BEING OFFENDED**

has **Become the NORM** in **Church?**

& **NOT Just** the **NORM in Church**  
But **FULLY ACCEPTED** by other **Christians**

& **NOT Just** **FULLY ACCEPTED** by other **Christians**  
But **SUPPORTED & ENCOURAGED** by other **Christians**

**They did WHAAAT to you?**

**The people God put in charge of LEADING the CHURCH made a Leadership DECISION about the Church . . . HOW COULD THEY**

**You should be SO OFFENDED By that**

**That person did WHAAAT to you? They Did?**  
**Oh Honey, tell me more – ALL the Gory Details**

**Oh, I can't believe it – I am SO with you**  
**We have got to DO SOMETHING about this!**

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Listen – **IN REGARD** – to **Other People**  
**Feeding your OFFENSE**

**Can I** show you a **HARD APPLICATION**  
to a **WELL-KNOWN Scripture**

**Turn** over to **Matthew 7:15**

**Matthew 7:15** → →



**Matthew 7:15–17, 20 (NLT)**

**15 “Beware of false prophets who come disguised as harmless sheep but are really vicious wolves.**

**16 You can identify them by their fruit, that is, by the way they act. Can you pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles?**

**17 A good tree produces good fruit, and a bad tree produces bad fruit.**

**...**

**20 Yes, just as you can identify a tree by its fruit, so you can identify people by their actions.**

**Can I say – GENTLY, Please**

If **you** are **offended** – & **a person** comes **alongside** you  
& **FANS** the **FLAME** of your **OFFENSE**

**That person** – I think **can be** accurately **described**  
as a **False Prophet** (teacher) in **your life**

**IF** they are **FANNING** the **FLAMES** – of **Your FLESH**  
& **if** they are **FEEDING** your **OFFENSE**

Then **They** are **PRODUCING BAD FRUIT**  
**In YOUR LIFE**

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**When** You **have taken** the **BAIT of SATAN**

& **you** have **BECOME OFFENDED**  
**Especially** By **another believer** in the church

**WHAT TYPE** of **Prophet** (Counselor) **do** you **need?**

You need one who will TELL YOU The TRUTH

NOT their Opinion -

& NOT Agree with YOUR Opinion

But Someone Who will Tell you

The ONLY Truth - we are Called to RUN our Lives BY  
The TRUTH of the Word of God

We don't need – a Wolf in Sheep's Clothing  
FEEDING the FLAMES of OFFENSE in our Lives

We need someone  
to Lovingly SPEAK the Word of God to us

We need someone to SHOW us –  
BY God's Word

That WE have TAKEN the BAIT of SATAN  
By BECOMING OFFENDED

& that it is OUR HEART  
that must be dealt with - FIRST

NOT the person who has Offended Us

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Now – IF the person  
who has offended us - HAS SINNED

Then – God's Word gives us ways to Address that Sin

**For Example – Matthew 18:21–22 (NLT)**

***21 Then Peter came to him and asked, “Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?”***

***22 “No, not seven times,” Jesus replied, “but seventy times seven!”***

So – **God’s Word DOES** give us **clear instruction**  
**LIKE** these **vs’s**

**About HOW** to **deal** with **someone**  
who **has sinned** against **us**

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**But FIRST** – we **MUST Understand**

**That if we** have **this FIRE of OFFENSE** living **inside us**

**Whether** it’s a **SMOLDERING EMBER**  
Or a **RAGING INFERNO**

**Then** we **MUST, FIRST**  
**Deal** with **OUR OWN HEART**

We **have GOT** to **DROP**  
that **BAIT of SATAN**

& **GET FREE**  
of the **Enemy’s TRAP of OFFENSE**

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**Can we do just One More Scripture before we go?**

**Galatians 6:7–8 (NLT)**

**7 Don't be misled—you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant.**

**8 Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature (that's what we naturally do when we become offended) will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. **But those who live to please the Spirit** (which is opposite of what we naturally do) will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit.**

**When** we are **TEMPTED**

to **TAKE** the **BAIT of SATAN** - & **BECOME OFFENDED**

We **MUST** Ask **ourselves**

**Do I WANT** to **Harvest Decay & Death**  
from **My Sin Nature - In this situation**

**OR – Do I WANT** to **Harvest Everlasting Life**  
from **The Spirit - In this situation**

In other **words** – we **have** to be **very careful**  
**HOW we respond**

**When** we are **FACED** - with this **BAIT of SATAN**

**AND** - the **LAST person** - we **NEED** in our **LIVES** at that **moment**

Is a **person who** is - **AGREEING** with **OUR Sin Nature**

& **Encouraging** us to **Harvest Decay & Death**  
**From this situation**

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**So – continuing in Galatians 6:9-10 (NLT)**

**9 So let's not get tired of doing what is good** (love in action). **At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up.**

**10 Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity** (like when we are tempted to become offended), **we should do good** (love in action) **to everyone—especially to those in the family of faith.**

**WHY** are we **SO QUICK** to **Take-Up** “**Being Offended**”  
by **those** in the **Family of Faith**

& **SO SLOW** – **to FORGIVE** those in the **Family of Faith**

**MAYBE** – **Because** we are **TAKING** the **BAIT of SATAN**

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So – **What** I'd **like** to do  
Is **PRAY** **right now**

But **then** I'd like to **READ THRU** the **hand-out**  
we **passed out** as you **came in** this **morning** - (everyone have one?)

**Let's Pray**

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## **Adapted from “The Bait of Satan” John Bevere, chapter 2**

God’s love in my life will not be conditioned upon my expectations or the actions of those around me. With the Holy Spirit’s help, I will love those who have offended me. (1Pet 4:8)

I commit to allowing the agape love of God, which has been poured out in my heart, to flow to those who have offended me. (Rom 5:5)

I refuse to live according to my flesh, instead I choose to live according to the Spirit in all my dealings with those who have offended me. (Gal 6:7-8)

Holy Spirit, please give me the strength to not grow tired of doing good and truly loving those who have offended me or not met my expectations. (Gal 6:9-10)

With God’s power I will tear down every stronghold of human reasoning that causes me to take the bait of offense. (2Cor 10:4-5)

I will live with an open heart of love and will not become imprisoned by my own walls of conditional expectations. (Prov 18:19)

I will follow the admonition of Jesus to love my enemies, do good to those who hate me, bless those who curse me, and pray for those who hurt me. (Luke 6:27-28)

I will never deny the power of Godliness at work in my life. I will allow God’s truth to pierce my heart and bring forth the character of Jesus Christ in me. (2Tim 3:3-5)

Many around me are living with offense toward others, I refuse to listen to them or join them in their sin. I will guard my heart against those who speak only what I want to hear, not what I need to hear. (Mat 7:15-20)