THE FEAR OF REJECTION (2)

1Samuel 16:1, 14

Notice how Saul's rejection eventually resulted in him receiving an "evil" spirit. Thus, we said to you that the *fear of rejection* often leads to *spirits of rejection*.

I realize that some people don't like when we associate serious psychological issues like *rejection* with demonic activity. Yet, when trying to deal with *source* of some of these issues we must, at some point, confront the *spiritual* side of our problems. Otherwise, we'll just be attacking the symptoms. This is because psychological and emotional issues often have a *spiritual* component to them! **1Thessalonians 5:23**

This verse points out to us that there are **3 parts to man's nature** (spirit, soul and body). Moreover, Paul prays that God would sanctify (or make holy) their spirit, soul and body, AND that He would do it in that ORDER! Thus, when it comes to our personal development, God begins with our *spirit*, followed by our *soul*, and lastly our *body*.

Therefore, when you want to deal with issues of the *soul* you don't go through the *body* (i.e. with drugs). Instead, you go to the root cause, or the spirit! (For example, when you want to stop a train you don't attack the man in the caboose. You attack the man driving the train (engineer). If you just attack the caboose, then the man driving the train will keep pulling you down the track!)

1Samuel 16:14-16; 18:10-11

Notice how they tried to treat a spiritual issue with a natural remedy. This won't bring lasting results. If you just attack rejection issues with music, drugs, or some other thing, all you're doing masking the real problem! (Just ask an alcoholic who turns to his drink to try t escape the pain. He can't, which is why many alcoholics cry when they drink.)

In order to truly overcome the issues of rejection we must be willing to put in real work, even to the point of enduring some *pain*. (One of the main reasons people won't deal with their issues of rejection is because they don't want to deal with any pain.)

Genesis 16:4-8

Why did Hagar flee from Sarah? Hagar fled from Sarah because Sarah "dealt harshly" or disciplined with her. So, rather than deal with the 'pain' or correction, Hagar *ran away*. (We should point out that Sarah was well in her right to discipline Hagar. For one, Hagar was "despising" Sarah. That is, treating her as if she was insignificant, or of little importance. Also, Hagar was Sarah's *maid*. Thus, Sarah had the right to put her in her place.)

Again, Hagar ran away because she viewed Sarah's *correction* as *rejection*! This is common among those who struggle with issues of rejection. They tend to respond negatively to correction and view it as a form of rejection. (Therefore, if we're going to overcome rejection, we must stop *quitting* or *running* every time someone disciplines us! We have to stop having such a negative attitude towards correction.)

Now, the alarming thing about this situation has to do with what the angel of the Lord said to Hagar concerning unborn son. **Genesis 16:11, 12**

Verse 12 should read, "Your son shall be like a wild donkey." Wild donkeys are untamable (i.e. they lack and reject discipline). Apparently, the stubbornness and obstinacy that was in Hagar would also be in her son! Therefore, rejection issues can become generational issues (curses) that we pass down to our seed. (This is why rejection can't be dealt with strictly from a psychological or medical standpoint, because the issues go far deeper than our mental or even our behavioral state.)

This is ALSO the reason why God introduces spiritual factors (demons) into the mix—so that man will realize that his problem is far deeper than something natural. If God never introduced spiritual factors into our situation, we would only look for natural remedies. But, by introducing spiritual factors to our problems, we're pressed into a place where we're forced to repent and seek Him for deliverance! God is the only one who can break generational curses.

In fact, because God is the one who *sends* the curse, He's the only one can take it away. Remember, <u>1Samuel 16:14</u> says that "an evil spirit FROM THE LORD, troubled [Saul]." Thus, it was God who sent the evil spirit. Why would God do this? To teach man something!

1Timothy 1:18-20

Notice how Paul delivered these men unto Satan they might "learn" something. In this case, it was so they might learn not to *blaspheme*. However, sometimes the devil is sent (used) that men might learn to *forgive*.

Matthew 5:23-25

Anyone who walks in *willful* disobedience, like unforgiveness, will come under judgment. Moreover, this judgment can be executed by men or by the devil! (For example, God gave David a choice how he would receive his discipline. God said, "Either choose to fall by the sword of your foes/or men, or by the sword of the Lord." David chose to fall by the sword of the Lord. God's judgment was then executed by an *angel*.) Therefore, angels (spirits) can be used to execute God's discipline or judgment.

Matthew 5:26

Notice that we are required to "pay" for the sins we commit willfully or in rebellion!

Hebrews 10:26, 27

To sin 'willfully' means to sin with a *full knowledge* of the truth. Also, the word "knowledge" in **verse 26** refers to that knowledge that we acquire through *experience*. Therefore, this is talking about returning to a sin AFTER we have already experienced victory in that area!

Moreover, the reason God requires US pay for the sins committed in rebellion is because the blood only atones for our ERRORS (sins done in weakness or ignorance). Hebrews 9:7

(Now, this *does not* mean God does not forgive willful disobedience. It simply means that God will still hold men accountable for rebellion!)

Psalm 99:8

Therefore, God holds us accountable for our rebellion (wickedness). If He didn't, we would never know where the "line" was! Isaiah 26:10

If you do not correct a 'wicked' person, not only would they not know where the "line" (righteousness) was, but they would deal perversely (go on doing evil) even in a 'land of uprightness' (i.e. in a *perfect* place they would still do wrong)!