

Offense study of the word/ Bait of Satan

Genesis 31:36 Then Jacob became angry and berated Laban. Jacob said to Laban, "What is my **offense**? What is my sin, that you have hotly pursued me?"

Genesis 40:1 Sometime after this, the cupbearer of the king of Egypt and his baker committed an **offense** against their lord, the king of Egypt.

Deuteronomy 19:15 "A single witness shall not suffice against a person for any crime or for any wrong in connection with any **offense** that he has committed. Only on the evidence of two witnesses or of three witnesses shall a charge be established.

Deuteronomy 22:26 But you shall do nothing to the young woman; she has committed no **offense** punishable by death. For this case is like that of a man attacking and murdering his neighbor,

Deuteronomy 25:2, then if the guilty man deserves to be beaten, the judge shall cause him to lie down and be beaten in his presence with a number of stripes in proportion to his **offense**.

Proverbs 17:9 Whoever covers an **offense** seeks love, but he who repeats a matter separates close friends.

Proverbs 19:11 Good sense makes one slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook an **offense**.

Isaiah 8:14 And he will become a sanctuary and a stone of **offense** and a rock of stumbling to both houses of Israel, a trap and a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

Matthew 13:57 And they took **offense** at him. But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown and in his own household."

Matthew 17:27 However, not to give **offense** to them, go to the sea and cast a hook and take the first fish that comes up, and when you open its mouth you will find a shekel. Take that and give it to them for me and for yourself."

Mark 6:3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?" And they took **offense** at him.

John 6:61 But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, "Do you take **offense** at this?"

Acts 25:8 Paul argued in his defense, “Neither against the law of the Jews, nor against the temple, nor against Caesar have I committed any **offense**.”

Romans 9:33 as it is written, “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling and a rock of **offense**; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

Galatians 5:11 But if I, brothers, still preach circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the **offense** of the cross has been removed.

1Peter 2:8 and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of **offense**.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

Hebrew words for Offense.

GK H7322 | S H6588 *פְּשָׁעַ* **peša** 93x

n.m. [7321]. rebellion, revolt, sin, transgression (against human or divine authority). → *offense; rebellion; sin; transgression*.

👉 NIV | ESV | CSB | NRSV | JPS | NKJV | KJV

Bait of satan

ANYONE WHO HAS TRAPPED ANIMALS KNOWS A TRAP NEEDS ONE of two things to be successful. It must be hidden, in the hope that an animal will stumble upon it, and it must be baited to lure the animal into the trap’s deadly jaws.

Satan, the enemy of our souls, incorporates both of these strategies as he lays out his most deceptive and deadly traps. They are both hidden and baited. Satan, along with his cohorts, is not as blatant as many believe. He is subtle and delights in deception. He is shrewd in his operations . . . cunning and crafty. Don’t forget he can disguise himself as a messenger of light.

If we are not trained by the Word of God to divide rightly between good and evil, we won’t recognize his traps for what they are. One of his most deceptive and insidious kinds of bait is something every Christian has encountered—**offense**. Actually, **offense** itself is not deadly—if it stays in the trap. But if we pick it up and consume it and feed on it in our hearts, then we have become offended.

Offended people produce much fruit, such as hurt, anger, outrage, jealousy, resentment, strife, bitterness, hatred, and envy. Some of the consequences of picking up an offense are insults, attacks, wounding, division, separation, broken

relationships, betrayal, and backsliding.

Often those who are offended do not even realize they are trapped. They are **oblivious** to their condition because they are so focused on the wrong that was done to them. They are in denial.

The most effective way for the enemy to blind us is to cause us to focus on ourselves.

Freedom from offense is essential for every Christian because Jesus said it is impossible to live this life and not have the opportunity to be offended (Luke 17:1).

In churches across America, large percentages of the people are responding to the altar call. Although there is a high response, it still is not everyone. Pride holds some people back from responding.

We have seen people healed, set free, filled with the Holy Spirit, and receive answers to prayers when they are released from this trap. They usually report that they have sought for years what they received in a moment, once they were free.

In the last part of the twentieth century, knowledge greatly increased in the church. But even with this increase, it seems we have experienced more division among believers, leaders, and congregations. The reason: Offense is rampant from a lack of genuine love.

"Knowledge puffs up, but love edifies" (1 Cor. 8:1). So many are snared in this deceptive trap that we have almost come to believe it is a normal way of life. Before the return of Christ, however, true believers will be united, unlike anything in the past.

Countless men and women will be released from this trap of offense. It is the fuel to the woke culture.

This will be one of the main links in seeing revival sweep this nation. Unbelievers will behold Jesus through our love of one another where they had been blinded to Him before.

God has burned this message into my heart, and I have seen its fruit remain in areas of my own life.

DECLARATIONS:

I refuse to be trapped when the enemy's bait of offense tries to ensnare me in its

grip by filling my heart with bitterness, jealousy, or envy (Luke 17:1).

Satan, you are the enemy of my soul, and I refuse to allow you to ensnare me in your hidden and baited trap of offense against my brothers and sisters in Christ.

I recognize Satan's crafty attempt to disguise himself as a messenger of light in my life. I will allow the Word of God to divide rightly between good and evil, ensuring that I will not become trapped by Satan's disguise.

I will avoid division among my fellow brothers and sisters in Christ by filling my heart with Christlike love for others (1 Cor. 8:1).

I refuse to produce the fruit of hurt, anger, outrage, jealousy, resentment, strife, bitterness, hatred, and envy in my life. The power of God's Spirit at work in my heart will keep the fruit of offense out of my life.

Holy Spirit, destroy every shred of pride in my life, and do not allow it to keep me from being healed, set free, and filled with Your power.

I am committed to helping unbelievers who have been blinded by the enemy to behold Jesus through our Christlike love of one another.

Father, make me a conduit of the Holy Spirit's power, flowing into the lives of others to set them free, heal, and restore them through Your love.

Holy Spirit, be my teacher and counselor so that Your revealed Word will continue to bring great liberty to my life and ministry. Father, I want to continue to always grow into a more intimate relationship with You.

Expose the areas of my life that hinder me from being Christlike, and cause my life to reflect the character of my precious Savior and Lord.

Part 1

ME, OFFENDED?

It is impossible that no offenses should come.

—LUKE 17:1

AS I TRAVEL, I HAVE been able to observe one of the enemy's most deadly and deceptive traps. It imprisons countless Christians, severs relationships, and widens the existing breaches between us. It is the trap of offense.

Many are unable to function properly in their calling because of the wounds and hurts that offenses have caused in their lives. They are handicapped and hindered from fulfilling their full potential. **Most often, it is a fellow believer who has hurt**

them.

This causes the offense to feel like a betrayal. In **Psalm 55:12–14** David laments, **“For it is not an enemy who reproaches me; then I could bear it. Nor is it one who hates me who has exalted himself against me; then I could hide from him. But it was you, a man my equal, my companion and my acquaintance. We took sweet counsel together, and walked to the house of God in the throng.”**

They are those whom we sit with and sing alongside, or perhaps it is the one who is delivering the sermon. We spend holidays, attend social functions, and share offices with them. Or it is closer. We grow up with, confide in, and sleep next to them.

The closer the relationship, the more severe the offense! You find the greatest hatred among people who were once close.

Attorneys will tell you that the most vicious cases are in the divorce courts. **“If you’r in my office, it’s too late”** The news constantly reports murders in homes by desperate family members. The home, meant to be a shelter of protection, provision, and growth where we learn to give and receive love, is often the very root of our pain.

History shows that the bloodiest wars are civil—brother against brother, son against father, or father against son.

The possibilities for offense are as endless as the list of relationships, no matter how complex or simple.

This truth remains: Only those you care about can hurt you. You expect more from them—after all, you’ve given more of yourself to them. The higher the expectations, the greater the fall.

Selfishness reigns in our society. Men and women today look out for themselves to the neglect and hurt of those around them. This should not surprise us. The Bible is very clear that in the last days, men will be **“lovers of themselves” (2 Tim. 3:2).**

We expect this in unbelievers, but Paul was not referring to those outside the church. He was talking about those within it. Many are wounded, hurt, and bitter. **They are offended!** But they do not realize that they have fallen into Satan’s trap.

Is it our fault? Jesus made it very clear that it is impossible to live in this world and not have the opportunity to become offended. Yet most believers are shocked, bewildered, and amazed when it happens.

We believe we are the only ones who have been wronged. This response leaves us vulnerable to a root of bitterness. Therefore we must be prepared and armed for offenses because our response determines our future.

THE DECEPTIVE TRAP

The Greek word for "offend" in Luke 17:1 comes from the word skand-alon. This word originally referred to the part of the trap to which the bait was attached. Hence the word signifies laying a trap in someone's way.

1 In the New Testament it often describes an entrapment used by the enemy. Offense is a tool of the devil to bring people into captivity. Paul instructed young Timothy:

24 And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, 25 correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, 26 and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will. 2 Timothy 2:24-26 ESV

Those who are in quarrels or opposition fall into a trap and are held prisoner to do the devil's will. Even more alarming, they are unaware of their captivity!

Like the prodigal, they must come to themselves by awakening to their true condition. They do not realize that they are spewing out bitter waters rather than pure.

When a person is deceived, he believes he is right even though he is not. No matter what the scenario is, we can divide all offended people into two major categories:

- (1) those who have been treated unjustly and
- (2) those who believe they have been treated unjustly.

People in the second category believe with all their hearts that they have been wronged. Often their conclusions are drawn from inaccurate information. Or their information is accurate, but their conclusion is distorted. Either way, they hurt, and their understanding is darkened. **They judge by assumption, appearance, and hearsay.**

THE HEART'S TRUE CONDITION

One way the enemy keeps a person in an offended state is to keep the offense hidden, cloaked with pride.

Pride will keep you from admitting your true condition. Once a couple of ministers severely hurt me. People would say, "I can't believe they did this to you. Aren't you hurt?" I would quickly respond, "No, I am fine. I'm not hurt." I knew it was wrong to be offended, so I denied and repressed it. I convinced myself I was not, but in reality, I was.

Pride masked the true condition of my heart. Pride keeps you from dealing with the truth. It distorts your vision.

You never change when you think everything is fine.

Pride hardens your heart and dims the eyes of your understanding. It keeps you from the change of heart—repentance—that will set you free. **(See 2 Timothy 2:24–26.)**

Pride causes you to view yourself as a victim. Your attitude becomes, "I was mistreated and misjudged; therefore, I am justified in my behavior." Because you believe you are innocent and falsely accused, you hold back forgiveness. Though your true heart condition is hidden from you, it is not hidden from God. Just because you were mistreated, you do not have permission to hold on to an offense. **Two wrongs do not make a right!**

THE CURE

In the Book of Revelation, Jesus addressed the church of Laodicea by first telling them how they saw themselves as rich, wealthy, and having need of nothing, then by exposing their true condition—"wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked" **(Rev. 3:14–20)**.

Revelation 3:14 "And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: 'The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God's creation.

Revelation 3:15 " 'I know your works: you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were either cold or hot!

16 So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth.

17 For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.

18 I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see.

19 Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent.

20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the

door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.
They had mistaken their financial strength for spiritual strength.

Pride hid their true condition. Many are this way today. They do not see the true condition of their hearts, just as I was unable to see the resentment I carried toward those ministers. I had convinced myself I was not hurt.

Jesus told the Laodiceans how to get out of their deception: buy God's gold and see their true condition. **Buy God's gold.** Jesus' first instruction for breaking free from deception was to "buy from Me gold refined in the fire" (**Rev. 3:18**).

Refined gold is soft and pliable, free from corrosion or other substances. It is when gold is mixed with other metals (copper, iron, nickel, and so on) that it becomes hard, less pliable, and more corrosive.

This mixture is called an alloy. The higher the percentage of foreign metals, the harder the gold becomes. Conversely, the lower the percentage of alloy, the softer and more flexible the gold is.

Immediately we see the parallel: A pure heart is like pure gold—soft, tender, and pliable. **Hebrews 3:12-13** states that hearts are hardened through the deceitfulness of sin! If we do not deal with an offense, it will produce more fruit of sin, such as bitterness, anger, and resentment.

This added substance hardens our hearts just as alloys harden gold. This reduces or removes tenderness, creating a loss of sensitivity. We are hindered in our ability to hear God's voice.

Our accuracy to see is darkened. This is a perfect setting for deception.

The first step in refining gold is grinding it into a powder and mixing it with a substance called flux. Then the mixture is placed in a furnace and melted by intense heat. The alloys and impurities are drawn to the flux and rise to the surface.

The gold (which is heavier) remains at the bottom. The impurities or dross (such as copper, iron, and zinc, combined with flux) is then removed, yielding a purer metal. Now look at what God says: **Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction. —ISAIAH 48:10**

And again: **In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ. —1 PETER 1:6–7,**

God refines with afflictions, trials, and tribulations, the heat of which separates impurities such as unforgiveness, strife, bitterness, anger, envy, and so forth from the character of God in our lives. Sin easily hides where there is no heat of trials and afflictions.

In times of prosperity and success, even a wicked man will seem kind and generous. Under the heat of trials, however, the impurities surface.

There have been times in my life when I went through intense trials, that I had never faced before. I become rude and harsh with those closest to me. My family and friends began to avoid me.

"When the fire of trials hit you, these impurities surfaced. Though hidden to you, they were always visible to God. So now you have a choice that will determine your future. You can remain angry, blaming your wife, friends, pastor, and the people you work with, or you can see this dross of sin for what it is and repent, receive forgiveness, and God will take My ladle and remove these impurities from your life." See your true condition.

Jesus said our ability to see correctly is another key to being freed from deception.

Often when we are offended, we see ourselves as victims and blame those who have hurt us. We justify our bitterness, unforgiveness, anger, envy, and resentment as they surface. Sometimes we even resent those who remind us of others who have hurt us.

For this reason, Jesus counseled, "Anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see" (**Rev. 3:18**). See what? Your true condition! That's the only way we can "be zealous and repent," as Jesus commanded next. You will only repent when you stop blaming other people. When we blame others and defend our own position, we are blind. We struggle to remove the speck out of our brother's eye while there is a log in ours.

It is the revelation of truth that brings freedom to us. When the Spirit of God shows us our sin, He always does it in such a way that it seems separate from us. This brings conviction, not condemnation.

God's Word will enlighten the eyes of your understanding that you will see your true condition and become free from any offense you are harboring. Don't let pride keep you from seeing and repenting.

DECLARATIONS:

Satan will not be able to ensnare me in his trap by causing me to become “a lover of myself” (2 Tim. 3:2).

Holy Spirit, flow into my life with Your power, and eradicate every fiber of selfishness that would try to snare me and cause me to love myself more than I love You and others.

I will not allow a root of bitterness to spring up in my life, defiling me and causing me to fall short of the grace of God (Heb. 12:15).

As a servant of my Lord I will follow Paul’s instruction to Timothy to be gentle, patient, and filled with humility in all my relationships—especially with those in opposition to me in some manner or way (2 Tim. 2:24–26).

I will not be held prisoner by the enemy through my own unwillingness to rid my heart of anger and unforgiveness and by spewing out bitter waters rather than pure.

Holy Spirit, keep me from hurt, deceit, and distortion because of darkened understanding and wrong conclusions about the intent of others to wrong me.

Reveal my heart’s true condition, and do not allow hidden offense to clothe me with pride.

When the trials of life encompass me and the genuineness of my faith is tested with fire, I want the character of God, which is much more precious than gold that perishes, to be visible in my life (1 Pet. 1:6–7).

I will not allow pride to hold back my willingness to forgive those who may hurt me. I do not have the right to hold on to my hurt.

Father, Your Word teaches me that a pure heart is like gold. Give me purity of heart and cause me to be soft, tender, and pliable to your instructions.

Holy Spirit, I recognize that You are refining me like gold through Your furnace of trials so that all the impurities of my heart will be melted and forced out of my life.

Holy Spirit, anoint my eyes with eye salve that I may see my true heart condition and be kept from deception through unforgiveness, anger, envy, and resentment (Rev. 3:18).

By the power of my God who lives within my heart I repent from the hidden impurities of my heart and plead for His forgiveness.

Father, take Your measure and remove these impurities from my life.

Father, enlighten the eyes of my understanding that I may see my true condition and become free from any hidden offense that I may have been harboring. Free me from pride!

Through God's power I will never attempt to remove the speck out of my brother's eye while there is a log of offense in my own heart. Reveal Your truth to me, Father.

AN OFFENDED CHRISTIAN IS ONE WHO TAKES IN LIFE BUT, BECAUSE OF FEAR, CANNOT RELEASE IT.

MASSIVE OFFENSE

And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved. —MATTHEW 24:10–13

IN THIS CHAPTER OF MATTHEW, JESUS IS GIVING THE SIGNS OF the end of this age. His disciples asked, "What will be the sign of Your coming?" Most agree we are in the season of His return. It is useless to try to pinpoint the actual day of His return. Only the Father knows that. But Jesus said we would know the season, and it is now! Never before have we seen such prophetic fulfillment in the church, in Israel, and in nature. We are in the time period Jesus described in Matthew 24.

Notice one of the signs of His pending return: "**Many will be offended. . . .**" Not a few, not some, but **many**.

First we must ask, "Who are these offended?" Are they Christians or just society in general? We find the answer as we continue to read: "And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold." The Greek word for love in this verse is agape.

There are several Greek words for love in the New Testament, but the two most common are **agape** and **phileo**.

Phileo defines a love found among friends. It is an affectionate love that is conditional. Phileo says, "You scratch my back, and I'll scratch yours," or "You treat me kindly, and I'll do the same."

On the other hand, agape is the love God sheds abroad in the hearts of His children. It is the same love Jesus gives freely to us. It is unconditional. It is not based on performance or even whether it is returned. It is a love that gives even when rejected.

Without God we can only love with a selfish love—one that cannot be given if it is not received and returned.

However, agape loves regardless of the response. This agape is the love Jesus shed when He forgave from the cross.

So "the many" Jesus refers to are Christians whose agape has grown cold.

There was a time when I did everything I could to show my love to a certain person. But it seemed that every time I reached out to love, the person slapped me back with criticism and harsh treatment.

This went on for months. One day I was fed up. I complained to God. "I have had it. Now You are going to have to talk to me about this. Every time I show Your love to this person, I get anger thrown back in my face!"

The Lord began to speak to me. "Charlie" you need to develop **faith in the love of God!** "What do You mean?" I asked. "He who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption," He explained, "but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart." **(See Galatians 6:7–9.)** You need to realize that when you sow the love of God, you will reap the love of God. You need to develop faith in this spiritual law—even though you may not harvest it from the field in which you sowed, or as quickly as you would like.

The Lord continued. **"In My greatest hour of need,** My closest friends deserted Me. Judas betrayed Me, Peter denied Me, and the rest fled for their lives. Only John followed from afar.

I had cared for them for over three years, feeding them and teaching them. Yet as I died for the sins of the world, I forgave. I released all of them—from My friends who had deserted Me to the Roman guards who had crucified Me.

They didn't ask for forgiveness, yet I freely gave it. *I had faith in the Father's love.* "I knew that because I had sown love, I would reap love from many sons and daughters of the kingdom. Because of My sacrifice of love, they would love Me. "I said to 'love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

“For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so?” (Matt. 5:44–47).

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

I realized that the love I was giving was being sown to the Spirit, and eventually I would reap those seeds of love. I didn't know from where, but I knew the harvest would come. No longer did I see it as a failure when love wasn't returned from the person I was giving it to. It freed me to love that person even more! If more Christians recognized this, they wouldn't give up and become offended.

Usually, this is not the type of love we walk in. We walk in a selfish love that is easily disappointed when our expectations are not met. If I have expectations about certain people, those people can let me down. They will disappoint me to the degree that they fall short of my expectations.

But if I have no expectations about someone, anything given is a blessing and not something owed. We set ourselves up for offense when we require certain behaviors from those with whom we have relationships.

The more we expect, the greater the potential offense.

WALLS OF PROTECTION?

A brother offended is harder to win than a strong city, and contentions are like the bars of a castle. —PROVERBS 18:19

An offended brother or sister is harder to win than a fortified city.

The strong cities had walls around them. These walls were the city's assurance of protection. They kept unwelcome inhabitants and invaders out. All entrants were screened.

Those who owed taxes were not allowed in until they had paid. Those considered a threat to the city's health or safety were kept out. We construct walls when we are hurt to safeguard our hearts and prevent any future wounds.

We become selective, denying entry to all we fear will hurt us. We filter out anyone we think owes us something. We withhold access until these people have paid their debts in full.

We open our lives only to those we believe are on our side. Yet often, these people who are "on our side" are offended as well. So, instead of helping, we stack additional stones on our existing walls.

Without our knowing when it happens, these walls of protection become a prison. At that point, we are not only cautious about who comes in, but in terror, we cannot venture outside our fortress.

Gal 6:7-9 **7** Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. **8** For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. **9** And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

Psalms 55:12 For it is not an enemy who taunts me—then I could bear it; it is not an adversary who deals insolently with me—then I could hide from him. **13** But it is you, a man, my equal, my companion, my familiar friend. **14** We used to take sweet counsel together; within God's house we walked in the throng.

24 And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, **25** correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, **26** and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will. 2 Timothy 2:24-26

Revelation 3:14 "And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: 'The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God's creation.

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16 So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth.

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you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.

18 I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see.

19 Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent.

20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

Hebrews 3:12-13 Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God.

13 But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

Isa 48:10 Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tried you in the furnace of affliction.

1 PETER 1:6-7