



A QUESTION OF CHARACTER

LESSON 10

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WORD FOR THE JOURNEY

- **James 1:21-22** Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and *all* that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls. But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.

- Doers: *poietai*: a performer; especially a poet

- Hearers: *akroatai*: those who listen without participation

- **LEARNING GOAL FOR THIS CLASS:**

Learning to hear God and respond to Him in such a way that His purposes can be fulfilled in us

We play an active role in the renewal of our minds

The mind is a battlefield in a spiritual war

BANNED PRAISED



BATTLE TACTICS

- One of Satan's key strategies is to make us feel rejected
Why? Because it works
- **John 1:10-11** He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him.
- **Isaiah 53:2-3** For He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of parched ground; He has no *stately* form or majesty that we should look upon Him, nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him. He was despised and forsaken of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; And like one from whom men hide their face He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.
- **John 7:4-5** "For no one does anything in secret when he himself seeks to be *known* publicly. If You do these things, show Yourself to the world." For not even His brothers were

WHEN WE FEEL REJECTED

REMEMBER

1. Jesus was perfect and people still rejected Him
 2. Jesus brothers didn't believe Him and ridiculed
 3. Paul's most trusted companions later rejected him
 4. Many of God's prophets were rejected by people
- How we deal with rejection reflects our depth of maturity
 - **1 Corinthians 15:10** But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me.
 - **Philippians 3:13-14** Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of *it* yet; but one thing *I do*: forgetting what *lies* behind and reaching forward to what *lies* ahead. I press on toward the goal for the prize of the

○ TAKING THOUGHTS CAPTIVE ○

- **2 Corinthians 10:3-5** For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. *We are* destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and *we are* taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ...

WHAT IS TRUE?

- **I belong to Jesus and I only serve Him**
- **Galatians 1:10** For am I now seeking the favor of men, or of God? Or am I striving to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a bond-servant of Christ.
- **John 15:18-19** "If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before *it hated* you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of

TRUTHS TO PONDER

- **Matthew 10:34-38** "Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I came to SET A MAN AGAINST HIS FATHER, AND A DAUGHTER AGAINST HER MOTHER, AND A DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AGAINST HER MOTHER-IN-LAW; and A MAN'S ENEMIES WILL BE THE MEMBERS OF HIS HOUSEHOLD. He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me."
- **Hebrews 13:5-8**...for He Himself has said, "I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER FORSAKE YOU," so that we confidently say, "THE LORD IS MY HELPER, I WILL NOT BE AFRAID. WHAT WILL MAN DO TO ME?" Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and

BATTLE TACTICS PART 2

- **Ephesians 1:5-8** He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished on us.
- Allowing ourselves to focus on past failures, anger with God, or anger with people can allow depression or despair to set in and overwhelm us
- **Romans 8:38-39** For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

TRUTH TO WALK BY

- **Romans 8:1** Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
- Condemnation: *katakrima*: adverse judgment; penalty
- **Romans 8:38-39** For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- **1 Corinthians 6:9-11** Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor *the* covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the

THE OLD SELF

• **Romans 6:3-10** Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have become united with *Him* in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be *in the likeness* of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old self was crucified with *Him*, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; for he who has died is freed from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him. For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God.

LIGHT AND DARKNESS

- **1 John 1:5-9** This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellow-ship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- **John 3:19-21** "This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil. For everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. But he who practices the truth comes to the Light, so that his deeds may be

GOD'S REMEDY

- **Jeremiah 31:34** "They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them," declares the LORD, "for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."
- Remember: *zakar*: make mention of something
- **Micah 7:18-19** Who is a God like You, who pardons iniquity and passes over the rebellious act of the remnant of His possession? He does not retain His anger forever, because He delights in unchanging love. He will again have compassion on us; He will tread our iniquities under foot. Yes, You will cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.
- **Psalms 103:11-12** For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His lovingkindness toward those who fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.

IF NOT GOD, WHO?

- **Revelation 12:10-11** Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our God day and night. And they overcame him be-cause of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death."

Accuser: *kategor:* person bringing charges (at law)

- **1 Peter 5:8** Be of sober *spirit*, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.
- Devour: *katapino:* gulp down; overwhelm
- Prowls: *peripateo:* to walk around (as proof of ability)
- **Psalms 121:1-3** I will lift up my eyes to the mountains; From where shall my help come? My help *comes* from the LORD Who made heaven and earth. He will not allow your