

TWO WORLDS - ONE WAY – Lesson #10

Last week, we explored what happens when we **hold on** to past wrongs, the hurts we experience from others, and what this does to our hearts. Anger is dangerous, but it never stays anger... it mutates into bitterness and resentment.

When we feel --we've been mistreated, betrayed, or wronged — unintentionally or otherwise — those actions often lead us to develop resentment for the people who've harmed us.

When we allow -- these complex emotions of anger, bitterness, and disappointment to fester for weeks, months, or even decades, they soon pollute the soul.

Resentment ---is called the cocaine of human emotions. It causes our wounded, offended hearts to smoke and to smell--and just like cocaine, its demands grow, for the need for more...

Resentment --is the poison you feed yourself while --hoping that the other person dies!

A person who is hooked --on Anger, Bitterness, and Resentment, is drifting unknowingly, further and further away from **GOD**...

Resentment --is the cheapest and least legitimate form of anger. It is all emotion and no strength.

Resentment - can be sparked by perceived unfair treatment by another person. It could be an injustice, such as not receiving a deserved promotion or an insult.

- It is legitimate to recognize unfair treatment, but don't dwell on the past event; the longer you do this, the longer and deeper the resentment grows.

Remember when God asked Jonah, "Why are you so Angry"?

Anger was in Cain's heart -- long before it was ever the blood of his brother Abel, for the blood of Abel was still on Cain's hands...

Genesis 4:2-7 "Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground, **v3** and in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the **LORD**, **v4** Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat, and the **LORD** respected Abel and his offering, **v5** but He did not respect Cain and his offering, and Cain **was very angry**, and his countenance fell, **v6** so the **LORD** said to Cain, "**Why are you angry?**, and why has your countenance fallen? **v7** If you do well, will you not be accepted, and if you do not do well, **sin crotches at the door**, and its desire *is* for you, but you master it."

Cain's anger was soon carried out; it is now noticeable, the anger, which was first invisible, before it became visible, long before he killed Abel in the field!

Just ASK the Pharisees – They Killed Jesus in their hearts long before they killed **HIM** on the **CROSS**!

Luke 22:1-2: "...Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread, called the Passover, was approaching, and the chief priests and scribes were looking for a way to put Jesus to death, for they feared the people."

Mark this down – Today's smoldering thoughts are tomorrow's actions, for as a man/woman thinks, they become!

- **Today's jealousy** – Is tomorrow's temper tantrum.
- **Today's bigotry** is tomorrow's hate crime.
- **Today's anger** – Is tomorrow's abuse.
- **Today's unforgiveness** is tomorrow's prison.

THE delights of having SINS FORGIVEN – Whenever you allow smoldering garbage of the past to stay on board your ship (heart), it won't take long for the people around you to know what's in your boat!

The troubles for the Pelicano --began with the first shovel of garbage!

Let's talk about **FORGIVENESS**:

- It's a choice you make – and not a feeling.
- It does not release the other person - It releases you from them!
- It removes your hands from around their throats!
- It does not mean that you **forget** what happened.
- It can feel like – we are letting the offender off the hook by pretending what they did or said to you **was OK** –or I can't forgive them because they're not sorry.
- **Choosing to see** -The offender with different eyes!
- It does not mean ---That you endorse, or that you excuse what they did or said to hurt you, or that you hang out with them next Sunday after church!
- **Forgiveness is the** -Get-out-of-jail Card" that releases you from the tormentors of your prison!
- **Forgiveness** – Cuts the emotional rope that ties you to the person, the past, to the old hurt, the wound, the offense.

"So his fellow servant fell at his feet and begged him to say, Have patience with me, and I will pay you all, so when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were grieved and came and told their master all that had taken place, then his master, after he had called him, said --You wicked servant – I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me, should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I pitied you, and his master was angry, and he delivered him over to the Tormentors until he should pay all that was owed him, so, My heavenly Father will also do to each of you if each of you does not **FORGIVE** his brother/sister from his heart" **Matthew 18:29-35**

Letting go of the rattlesnake might help the snake – But the benefits you receive are far more significant!

FORGIVENESS – Is giving grace and mercy to those who **don't deserve it...**

Jesus said: **Forgive**, and you will be forgiven, and if you do not **FORGIVE**, neither shall your sins be forgiven – **You're still in prison!**

Are you still **ANGRY** – Are you still **HOLDING** on to all **THAT** old trash from the **PAST**?

Are you still **STIRRING** that **BOILING POT** –within.

You can be free and forgiven today.

WHY not **SPEAK** to this **MOUNTAIN** today - **REPENT** and unload the garbage of the past – At the Cross.