

## **The Spirit of Rejection (Part I)**

The enemy's strategy against us is to wound us with rejection and abandonment as this gets us to compensate through flesh patterns that typically open us up to demonic activity. Physical wounds can be bandaged immediately, however with emotional wounds we try to do something else about them. Remember, pain seeks pleasure. If you have a tree that you plant but decide you want to uproot it, it's better to do so when its 8 inches than when its 3 metres. At 8 inches the root system is only 8 inches deep, but at 3 metres it is 3 metres deep. We need to pray for our children before the root system is deep and more difficult to uproot.

*Wounds become strongholds and strongholds attract spirits. A stronghold is a belief pattern that exalts itself above the knowledge of Christ. A strong hold will include default reactions and defense mechanisms that preserve a particular pattern. A spirit of rejection multiplies those feelings of rejection and the lies and irrational behavior associated with them. We are then more likely to engage in counterfeits in order to deal with our pain.*

God designed family so that children build up emotional object constancy through the love and affection they receive from their parents. When this is not fully present there will be holes in our souls that produce fruit. You can decide for yourself what type of fruit you want.

*"You cannot repent of a demon, repentance will not be enough to deal with demonic force. Neither can you repent of a wound. A demon has to be cast out, and a wound must be healed."* David Legge.

### **I. God's acceptance** ***God's acceptance is bigger than your rejection***

**Ps 27:10**

**When my father and my mother forsake me, Then the Lord will take care of me.**

We should remember that there is always a way out despite all the pain we have been through. God should always be our source. Don't go to the counterfeits but make Him your stronghold.

**Ps 27:1-5**

**The Lord is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life;**

**Of whom shall I be afraid? 2 When the wicked came against me To eat up my flesh, My enemies and foes, They stumbled and fell. 3 Though an army may encamp against me, My heart shall not fear; Though war may rise against me, In this I will be confident. 4 One thing I have desired of the Lord, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the Lord, And to inquire in His temple. 5 For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion; In the secret place of His tabernacle He shall hide me; He shall set me high upon a rock.**

**Romans 15:7 Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.**

**1 Timothy 1:15 Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst**

**Psalm 139:14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well**

**Ephesians 1:3-6 "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love He predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will – to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves."**

**Colossians 1:21-22** Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation.

**John 6:37** All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away.

**Acts 10:34-35**

Opening his mouth, Peter said: "I most certainly understand now that God is not one to show partiality, but in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right is welcome to Him.

So this is God's truth with regards to our acceptance, but we live in a world full of rejection. This wounds us, strongholds are erected and a spirit of rejection is attracted.

## **II. Attitudes and behaviour associated with rejection**

All of these are flesh patterns that are not in line with God's truth. It's important to see that when behavior is based on false belief the fruit is not good. Our action as a result of this identification is to confess, repent and renounce. Often it's very subtle because the outward behavior is not always sinful but the motive of the heart is. Remember that you are not a victim. You are responsible for your behaviour and attitude. Generally speaking you have passive reactions to rejection and aggressive reactions to rejection. So rejection comes in many guises.

1. Constant feeling of abandonment
  - Fear of losing a loved one through death
  - Fear of being cheated on
  - Fear of rejection can also result in anger. Putting up a shield of anger as a defense mechanism.
  - Often feeling misunderstood "people don't get me"
  - Always explaining yourself because you feel misunderstood
2. Addictions and substance abuse (alcohol, drugs, food etc)
  - Instead of running to the prince of peace we practice idolatry. Where do you run?
  - The bottle will not reject me.
  - Masturbation and gambling are also common outcomes of rejection.

It's easy to judge others, but we must realize that the pain can be severe and pain seeks pleasure.

**Proverbs 15:13**

**A joyful heart makes a cheerful face, but when the heart is sad, the spirit is broken.**

**Proverbs 17:22**

**A joyful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit dries up the bones."**

**Proverbs 18:14**

**The spirit of a man can endure his sickness, but a broken spirit who can bear?"**

3. Unbelief

When the people who were supposed to show us love didn't do so, then our tendency is to doubt the love of God. Sometimes we can minister to others but when it comes to ourselves we sink into unbelief. When good things happen to us we are suspicious. We think there is a catch.

### **Heb 3:12-13**

**Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; 13 but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.**

Often you feel very insignificant and inferior. When people try to show you otherwise, you still interpret your world through that lens.

You often have strong thoughts of self-hatred. The isolated self is a bad self.

#### 4. Addictive relationships

You think you love them but its more apt to say "you need them". Your self image is based on their acceptance or rejection of you.

### **1 Cor 9:19**

**For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them.**

Addictive relationships are characterized by emotional abuse and control. They are also characterized by codependency and collapsed boundaries. You don't know where you end and the other begins.

As long as you have the root of rejection you will always bent toward man and not straightened to God.

### **John 5:41-44**

**"I do not receive glory from men; 42but I know you, that you do not have the love of God in yourselves. 43"I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, you will receive him. 44"How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and you do not seek the glory that is from the one and only God?**

A common form of addictive relationship is joining a sub-culture or cult.

#### 5. Criticism and hypersensitivity

- You exaggerate the probability of being rejected
- Small mistakes are seen as causes of abandonment
- Offended or embarrassed when corrected or disciplined
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#### 6. Self pity

- You see your situation as all bad and others as all good

#### 7. Performance mentality to maintain relationships

- Love with a hook
- Disappointment when love is unrequited (no love returned)
- Debt based relationships (they owe me one)
- Perfectionism and approval addiction
- This manifests in your parenting style and produces guilt

## Luke 6:34-36

**And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. 35But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them, expecting nothing in return. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. 36Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful....**

8. Self-sufficiency
  - Maturity is seen in interdependency not independence.
9. Isolation (hiding from love)
  - Often the result is sabotaging relationships
  - This is often how the orphan spirit works
  - The result is that you end up with no mentors and your relationships with authority figures suffer.
10. Protesting behavior
  - It's easier for you to attack than express your needs in a vulnerable manner
  - You can protest by rejecting others before they can reject you
11. Lies
  - "I will always be looking from the outside in"
  - Your inner villagers and emotional triggers are very loud
12. Attention seeking behavior (fabrications etc)
13. Comparisons
  - Always looking over your shoulder, never feeling good enough, playing catch up
14. The Hero Syndrome
  - If I achieve greatness then I will be accepted. The sad thing is that it's never enough.
  - Sometimes the family relies on the hero for their corporate self image. All eyes are on you to achieve.
15. Permissive and Placating behavior in relationships
  - This is seen in management style and parenting style
  - You project your fear of rejection onto others
  - You don't discipline others because of fear of being misunderstood and ultimately rejected by them.
  - You fear being rejected even by your kids.
16. Self-rejection
  - Suicide is an extreme form of self-rejection
  - Often the depression and despair has become so strong that a spirit of death attaches itself to someone.
  - Fantasy is a form of self-rejection
  - Often healing from rejection involves correcting a misplaced identity