

UPROOTING REJECTION #1: “Roots of Rejection”

Psa 27:10

Intro: From early ministry – trying to help people/counsel people I would be puzzled at decisions/actions/reactions
People choose/act/react in unhealthy/unreasonable - even destructive ways: I would ask WHY? How did you get his way?

I began to understand the power of rejection in people’s lives: Disapproval/lack of valuing

We will look at people’s pasts in order to bring freedom: I am not a psychologist/advocating psychiatry:

I believe in supernatural deliverance and the power of truth to bring freedom

Our text: The possibility of being rejected in life – and the answer is God!

I. THE ROOTS OF LIFE

A. The Bible speaks of the principle of **roots**

1. Things that are under the surface/hidden – but determine what happens above the surface

a. **Deuteronomy 29:18** *Make sure there are no Roots... that are bitter. Roots produce.*

b. **Hosea 9:16** *Judgment: but this shows principle.*

c. **Hebrews 12:15** *Principle: If there is poisonous root... cause trouble.*

Saved, going to heaven, but can be troubled. Things that are not okay on the inside.

2. Every person has roots of the past that can have effect years later:

a. **Unhealthy fruit:** *Ways of thinking/destructive emotions/addictions/relational difficulties*

b. **Inability to produce good things:** *Relationship with God/relationship with others*

1. Some think-talk about the past: *Turn red w/embarrassment/shame*

2. Some: Anger over past events 3. Some: A reaction against past events; I will never/I’ll show them

3. Every person is in some way the product of the past

a. Good: *Blessed by the past* b. Bad: *Think/feel/react in ways that are connected to the past*

4. The past is not an excuse – it is an explanation: *So we know where to get healing*

a. **2 Kings 2:19–22** *Some people think downstream. “Take away the feeling” won’t work, not the source.*

B. The question(**About the past**) is **why?**

1. Some things from the past have no effect on us today (cuts/injuries) *They hurt/they healed/it’s over*

a. *So why do some words/events from the past have such powerful effect on us today?*

2. The answer: There are God-created needs inside every person

a. **God has designed every person to need relationships:**

1. **Genesis 2:18**

a. Human relationships are supposed to supply some things you have to have to be healthy

b. **God has designed every person to need love and acceptance**

1. Your worth as a person: *How you see your value. Beautiful young women, choose dirtbags. Why?*

Is that what you think you're worth? Only deserve a dirtbag?

a. R.C. Sproul: *We yearn to believe that in some way we are important. This inner drive is as intense as our need for water and oxygen.*

2. Your identity: *Who you are/who you’re supposed to be. Who are you?*

a. People who change all the time: *Cowboy/rapper/athlete...they don’t know who they are!*

b. Young man in South Africa asked me: *Who am I? He wasn't talking about his name*

3. The choices of life are made based on our worth/identity

a. *Dan Sneed tells story of visiting a man who was a homosexual dying of AIDS. He confessed he had been molested as a young boy. He believed something was wrong w/him – that he could never be like any men he admired. He said, "I didn't want to be this way! I hate it! I hate myself! But this is who I am/this is how I see myself."*

3. This is why some events of the past have such powerful effect on us even today

a. It's not that the event (rejection) is so powerful: *A word/a sneer...*

b. It's that our need for love and acceptance is so strong it amplifies the effects of rejection

1. *Stupid: A word/6 letters. But to some it is like a curse word/banned. Causes pain. Someone gave you that message*

4. So sometimes we need to identify the unhealthy roots – so we can uproot negative effects

II. ROOTS OF REJECTION

A. If our God-created need is for love and acceptance

1. A powerful strategy of hell against us is to cause us to be **rejected**

a. *Rejection: To refuse to accept or approve; To fail to value or fail to give value*

2. **Rejection most often comes through people:**

a. **Active rejection:** *Intentional actions carried out in spoken words and/or physical actions against us*

1. Judges 11:2

a. *Divorce is active rejection* b. *Being told you are worthless/I wish you were never born*

BUT: I grew up with parents, no divorce etc....

b. **Passive Rejection:** *Failure to give what is needed; Love and acceptance*

1. *Indifference of or general neglect from someone who is designed to give you love, affirmation, and affection, normally a parent, spouse, friend, or someone else important in your life. God put you into relationships.. parents/friends/etc. Supposed to give you love and acceptance. They were there... but...*

a. *Coldness/lack of communication: Never being shown affection or words of love & acceptance "pass the salt, finish your homework" helpful but not what you need. Never shown affection. Words of love and acceptance.*

1. *I'm sure my father/mother loved me – they just never said it. Principle of blessing: Must be spoken.*

2. Genesis 27:38

3. **Rejection can come through events or circumstances: Things we had no choice in.**

a. *Death/abandonment* b. *Abuse: Physical/sexual* c. *Divorce Kids take responsibility for divorce.*

1. *Example: Born into poverty: Go to school – classmates have clothes/toys you can't afford. This is interpreted as "I don't have worth." Or: My value comes from what I own.*

B. Rejection produces effects in our lives: It produces unhealthy roots

1. Romans 8:15 NKJV

2. Romans 8:15 NCV *Rejection produces fear.... Fear of people/opening up/fear of commitment/success/failure*

a. For rejected people – fear is a predominant mindset

1. *We fear being worthless/fear being rejected/fear relationships/failure/commitment – GOD!!*

3. Rejection becomes a mindset that **filters** every word/action/situation – and **dominates** our lives *"you look nice today.. "WHAT? I didn't look nice yesterday?!"*

a. 2 Corinthians 10:4 He is writing to Christians. This isn't a salvation issue. You have Strongholds that NEED to be pulled down.

1. Prisons: *People are trapped in unhealthy ways of thinking/acting/reacting*

2. Forts: *That dominate an area; Rejection dominates our relationships with God and people, etc.*

You cannot have a healthy relationship with God with rejection.

A God to trusts. A God who accepts you. Loves you. He IS love.

III. HEALING AND HEALTHY ROOTS

A. God plans to bring deliverance and healing from the past

1. **God wants to remove unhealthy roots that affect us today**

a. Jeremiah 31:28

b. Luke 17:6

2. **God wants to bring healing for the past**

a. Luke 4:18 God made you to receive love and acceptance. If you didn't get it, your heart is broken!

God can heal that!

Give you liberty!

3. **God wants to plant healthy roots in our hearts & minds**

a. Psalm 1:3

Pray. That God will open your heart in this series.

You need a miracle. You don't need notes... a miracle.

Some people puzzled at things... why? You need God to open your eyes and heart.