

The Benefits of The Enmity

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Mike Miller

Straight Paths Bible Church

Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

- I. All the hatred, strife, and conflict in the world has its springs in the fact that God put enmity between good and evil in the beginning.
 - A. Sometimes there are conflicts because of misunderstandings, but misunderstandings result from believing things that are not true.
 - B. Sometimes there are conflicts because of differences of opinion, but differences of opinion prove that someone has believed something that is not true.
 - 1. The truth does not allow for differences of opinion; it is not flexible and changeable.
 - 2. It is the Serpent's side that professes to allow for differences of opinion, but in fact, does not tolerate them.
 - 3. It is the Serpent and his seed that seduce professing Christians to tolerate and embrace differences of opinion as if it is some evidence of love.
 - 4. God does not lead us in this direction at all.

Proverbs 23:23 Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.

1 Peter 5:8-9 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

- C. God's people are to be patient with, but not tolerant of the wicked.
 - 1. They realize that every person can be saved and delivered from their wickedness.
 - 2. They realize that it takes time for that to happen, and so they are patient without developing a tolerant attitude toward sin and wickedness.
- II. IT (the seed of the woman) shall bruise thy head.
 - A. The descendants of Adam and Eve that do not choose the way of evil will bruise the head of the Serpent.
 - B. They will be able to withstand his attacks, see through his deceit, and not succumb to his wiles.
 - C. They will have power over the devil and be able to resist his power.

James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

- D. Since they have power over the tempter himself they will have power to resist his seed, also, that are under his power, and not be overcome by them.

Ephesians 6:16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

- E. Because God has laid down this law from the beginning we can be assured that the righteous will always triumph over the wicked in the end, and that is good news.

1 John 4:4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

1. The wicked have their times when they seem to be on top, but it is always short-lived.
2. Their time in authority is only allowed as a chastisement for the waywardness of the righteous - God uses them as a sword.

Psalms 17:13 Arise, O LORD, disappoint him, cast him down: deliver my soul from the wicked, which is thy sword:

- F. The righteous are a force that the world must reckon with.
- G. They are always the best warriors.
 1. Since the righteous are the children of light, they know what they are doing and are not stumbling in the darkness.
 2. They have order in their lives, in their understanding, and in their ranks.
 3. They have true courage that comes from knowing their cause is just because it is based upon what God says and not on some selfish aim of their own.

Proverbs 28:1 The wicked flee when no man pursueth: but the righteous are bold as a lion.

4. They truly have God on their side.
5. Therefore, they make the fiercest and most formidable warriors.

III. The strategy of the Satan is to persuade the righteous with lies and deceit to lay down their arms and live in peace with the wicked.

- A. The Bible shows us that it has always been the message of the false prophets.

Jeremiah 6:14 They have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.

Ezekiel 13:10 Because, even because they have seduced my people, saying, Peace; and there was no peace; and one built up a wall, and, lo, others daubed it with untempered mortar:

- 1. Modern example: "Make America Great Again."
- B. Jesus assures us that trusting in Him and becoming a Christian will not bring us into a peaceful relationship with this world.

Luke 12:51-53 Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division: For from henceforth there shall be five in one house divided, three against two, and two against three. The father shall be divided against the son, and the son against the father; the mother against the daughter, and the daughter against the mother; the mother in law against her daughter in law, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.

Matthew 10:34-36 Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household.

- C. Jesus speaks of the peace that He gives us as being very different than the peace that the world is always talking about.

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

- D. The devil's idea of peace is for the righteous to give up and join the wicked.

Isaiah 48:22 There is no peace, saith the LORD, unto the wicked.

- IV. The fact that there would be enmity between her seed and the seed of the serpent was another promise of hope for Adam and Eve.
 - A. That at least not all of their offspring would embrace evil and count God as their enemy.
 - B. They knew from this simple statement of God that there would always be a remnant - there would always be some who would love God and reject evil.
 - C. So they were assured by this statement that all was not lost because of their sin.

- V. And THOU shalt bruise his heel ...
 - A. The devil was put on notice here that he would be defeated.
 - B. Not only that, but he was to be defeated by the seed of the woman - a man.
 - C. The last Adam was going to crush the head of the Serpent with his heel, and in so doing He would bruise his heel.
 - D. The defeat of Satan and the redemption of man came at a very high cost to God.
 - E. He would be born from the seed of the woman and enter into a body of flesh, experience an earthly life in a sin-cursed world, with all of its sorrow and pain.

Isaiah 53:3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

- F. He would make himself as vulnerable to the devil as any man ever had been and He would overcome him by the Word of God and the Spirit of God.
- G. The devil had attacked man at his weakest point and prevailed ...this time, but God was going to send another man to give the devil what he had coming.
- H. So the devil has his day, but his time is limited by God.

Luke 22:53 When I was daily with you in the temple, ye stretched forth no hands against me: but this is your hour, and the power of darkness.

- I. We better realize this fact and not faint in this day of darkness.
- J. This is again their hour and the power of darkness, but it will soon be over and Jesus is coming.
- K. Just make sure you are a part of his bride and have your lamp trimmed and burning with plenty of oil in case His coming is longer than you expect.