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THE ROOT OF REJECTION

How to Identify the Causes and
Receive Healing from the Effects

Teaching Notes by Joyce Meyer

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The *Root* of Rejection

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THE ROOT OF REJECTION

The Root Of Rejection And Its Results – How Your Perception Is Affected

Foundation Scripture: **Isaiah 53:3** – Jesus was despised and rejected.

I. The Root Of Rejection And Its Results

- A. Rejection (defined) – To refuse; throw away as having NO value; not to use or notice.
- B. Roots (defined) – The starting point, the first growth from the seed.
 - 1. Seeds are buried, they germinate, roots develop, and go down before fruit and branches are seen above the ground.
 - 2. Rotten fruit = Rotten roots
Good fruit = Good roots
 - 3. It (the process) takes time to get uprooted, replanted, rooted again in good soil, and bearing good fruit.
 - 4. Are you dealing with root or fruit?
 - 5. **Luke 10:16** – Jesus said he who rejects you, rejects Me.
 - 6. **Deuteronomy 29:18** – Beware of a poisonous root.
- C. Respond to rejection with forgiveness and the decision to press on!

- D. Scripture references on roots:
1. **Matthew 13:6** – Because they had no root, they dried up.
 2. **Romans 11:16** – If the root is holy, so are the branches.
 3. **Ephesians 3:17b** – *May you be rooted deep in love and founded **securely** on love . . .*
 4. **Romans 8:35-39**

II. The Results Of Rejection

- A. **Insecurity** – A psychological disturbance of epidemic proportion.
1. Insecure (defined) – Unstable, uncertain, lacking confidence, unsure, shaky, unsound.
 2. Insecurity is a fruit of the “Root of Rejection.”
 3. **WHO IS KEEPING YOU FIXED?**
- B. Jesus offers “**security and unconditional love.**”
1. Secure (defined/Greek) – Having full command, to be strong, rule without anxiety, free from care.
 2. **Isaiah 54:17** – No weapon formed against us shall prosper, and every tongue that rises up against us shall be shown to be in the wrong. This (**PEACE, righteousness, SECURITY**, triumph over opposition) is our heritage as servants of the Lord.
 3. **Ephesians 1:4-5** – He chose us and adopted us.
 4. **John 3:18** – There is NO REJECTION in Him.
 5. **Psalms 27:10** – The Lord adopts us.

III. Causes For Rejection

- A. Unwanted conception
- B. Contemplated or attempted abortions
- C. Wrong sex (wished for a girl, got a boy)
- D. Child born with defects (learning or physical)
- E. Adoption or abandonment (death of a parent)
- F. Abuse (physical, verbal, sexual, emotional; withholding love)
- G. Victim of circumstances:
 - 1. Baby separated from mother too early.
 - 2. Having to work outside the home.
- H. Turmoil within the home that causes the child to:
 - 1. Live in turbulence
 - 2. Be ignored
- I. Peer rejection – Children can be very cruel.
- J. Marriage rejection – Unfaithfulness or divorce
- K. “Negative condition” around you; rejection-based parents;
bloodline curses
- L. No one hardly gets left out. This is Satan’s biggest attack.

IV. More Results Of Rejection

- A. **Rebellion** – Rejection is almost always the root of rebellion.

1. People are intended for love and acceptance – not for:
 - a. Misuse
 - b. **Mistreatment** can create “inner anger,” which manifests in REBELLION.
2. I was MAD (ANGRY). I was finished being pushed around.

- B. Bitterness
- C. Self-Pity
- D. **Escapism** – Creating your own pleasant world through daydreaming.

OR

Mood altering – Drugs, alcohol, judgmentalism, workaholic, etc.

- E. Guilt
- F. Inferiority and poor self-image
- G. Poverty (due to poverty image)
- H. Fears of all types
- I. Hopelessness
- J. Defensiveness
- K. Hardness
- L. Distrust and disrespect
- M. Competition and jealousy
- N. Our adjustments to rejection are many.
 1. Seventy-five percent of all world leaders are abuse and rejection based.

2. Perfectionism
3. **Workaholic** – Accomplishments are due to workaholic tendencies.

V. How Rejection Affects Our Perception (How We See Things)

A. Rejection-based people perceive things as being rejection that are not.

1. Example: Dave and I
 - a. I was very hard to talk to unless Dave was totally agreeing.
 - b. I perceived his disagreement as rejection.
 - c. I would start trying to **CONVINCE** him (so I would feel **FIXED**).

Dave would feel **MANIPULATED**.
 - d. Result – We could not communicate.
 - e. Dave would repeatedly say, “I’m only giving my opinion. Why do you act like I’m attacking you?” (**I FELT ATTACKED.**)

B. Rejection-based people can’t be **confronted**.

1. They won’t allow you to be honest.
2. **Maturity** – Great sign of maturity is to be able to handle correction.
3. **Balance** – There is a balance between receiving correction and letting others tell you how to run your life.
4. **Ephesians 4:15**

- C. I was crying and having a really rough time. Dave came in and saw me crying. He asked if I wanted to talk. I told him I wasn't ready yet. When I was ready to talk, I went to Dave; and he said, "Make it quick – I'm in a hurry!" **I WAS CRUSHED!** I cried all day!

About two weeks later, we talked about it. Dave thought I was **interceding!** I thought he was **rejecting me**. In my time of need he was cold, insensitive, and did not have any discernment or understanding! **We try to give people what we need.**

- D. Dave was playing bad golf (really bad). I tried to pat his back to comfort him.

HIS RESPONSE: "Don't feel sorry for me. This is good for me."
I felt rejected and I felt crushed.

GOD'S ANSWER – "You are trying to give him what YOU need. He does not need that. Dave is being **honest**, so his response makes you 'feel' rejected – when in reality, you are not being rejected at all."

1. Good Example: A person I know (whether in sickness or trial) needs a lot of pity and attention (carrying on). She tries to give it, and it turns people off.

- E. While at the post office, I was talking to Dave about something that was **important to ME**. Dave got distracted by a man coming out of the door because his shirt was ripped. I **knew** Dave loved me, but it still **hurt** that he was not paying total attention to me. I got mad (angry). **I FELT rejected.**

1. **Emotional rejection** goes beyond your mind to the old wound (like a bruise). I feel it even if I didn't **KNOW** it was coming.

- F. Various personalities need different things.

1. Example: Our children took me out for Mother's Day. I immediately started to be concerned that Dave would **feel left out**.

HOMEWORK: When you FEEL rejected, check your PERCEPTION.

Rejection Protection Patterns

Walls We Build

Foundation Scripture: **Isaiah 53:3** – Jesus was despised and rejected.

I. Rejection Protection Patterns – Part I

A. The **PAIN** of emotional rejection

1. We try to avoid emotional rejection even more than physical pain.
2. Rejection (defined) – To be cast aside; thrown away as having no value.
3. Every person is attacked with **rejection** starting in childhood!

Example: Danny

4. More than anything, the devil uses **fear of rejection** to prevent people from going forward.
5. We spend most of our time trying to avoid **rejection** rather than building relationships.

II. “Protection Patterns” We Develop

A. Walls we build to protect ourselves

1. **Walls** biblically represent protection, safety, and keeping us safe from our enemies.

Satan counterfeits godly walls.

2. God builds walls – not us.

3. We need to tear down **self-made** walls so **godly walls** can be erected.
4. **Hebrews 11:30** – By **faith** the walls fell down.
5. **Isaiah 26:1** – God is our wall.
6. **Isaiah 26:3-5** – Trust the Lord for peace.
7. **Isaiah 49:15-16** – Our **walls** are continually before Him.
8. **Isaiah 60:18** – Walls called Salvation; no more violence in our borders (souls)
9. The Lord is our:
 - a. Shield
 - b. Buckler
 - c. High Tower
 - d. Hiding Place
 - e. Keeper
 - f. Defender
10. **Isaiah 62:4-6** – Our Protection
11. We are owned and protected by the Lord **IF** we turn our protection over to Him.
12. Turn your protection over to Him.

B. How are wrong walls built?

1. **Inner vows** – Promises we make to ourselves to protect ourselves.

- a. Examples: “Nobody will ever hurt me again.”
“I’ll never get close to anybody ever again.”
“I’ll never get close enough to anybody to let them hurt me.”

The above statements prevent intimate relationships.

- b. Example: “Nobody is ever going to control me or tell me what to do. I’ll run my own life.”

The above statement represents rebellion and an inability to submit.

- c. Examples: “You can’t trust anybody!”
“You can’t trust men.”
“You can’t trust women.”

The above statements build walls of suspicion.

- d. Example: “I will **NEVER** get involved with a group of people again.”

We need to keep a balance. This type of statement is an example of withdrawal and isolation.

- e. Inner vows develop attitudes and **wrong thought systems**.

2. Wrong thinking and attitudes develop **fears**.
3. **Result** – We spend most of the time avoiding rejection rather than building loving relationships.
4. Forget yourself; reach out, give to others, build them up. Turn your protection over to God.

WE CAN’T LOVE UNLESS WE ARE WILLING TO HURT.

III. Rejection Protection Patterns – Part II

- A. **Pretense** – We pretend we don't care and that it does not matter or hurt.
- B. **Psalm 51:6** – I desire truth in the inner parts.
- C. **John 8:32** – The Truth sets us free.
- D. **Ephesians 4:15** – Speak truly, deal truly, live truly – we can't love without truth.
- E. **Isaiah 53:4** – Rejection hurts, but He bore our hurts so we can survive.

IV. Rejection Protection Patterns – Part III

- A. **Self-defense** – “You are mistreating me; you are hurting me. **Let me correct you.**”
 - 1. You can reveal your needs, but they can't become **LAWS** governing relationships.
 - a. Forget birthdays, Mother's Day, Valentine's Day, etc.
 - b. Not thoughtful
 - c. “Let me lay out all these guidelines for our relationship so you won't hurt me again.”
 - 2. **Verbal defense** – Trying to convince people you are right or your heart is right.
 - 3. **I Peter 2:23** and **Acts 10:38** – Jesus never defended Himself. He trusted Himself to God; He went about doing good; and in particular, curing all who were oppressed by the devil.
 - 4. The Holy Spirit is our **ADVOCATE = COMFORTER**.

- a. He is the One called to be beside another, to aid and console; combines encouragement with alleviation of grief. He is our legal assistant, lawyer, counsel for our defense, and One Who pleads another's cause. Are you being your **own attorney**?
- 5. The defense system of anger:
 - a. "I'm mad because you hurt me."
 - b. **Ephesians 6:12** – War is not against flesh.

V. Rejection Protection

- A. Buying protection.
 - 1. Do you bless people to love them or to get them to love you?
- B. Allowing others to control and manipulate you, so you won't lose them and feel rejected.
- C. It is time for the walls to come **tumbling down**.
- D. Turn your protection and defense over to the Lord.
- E. Love to give – not to get.

Rejection And Perfection

I. Rejection And Perfection

Foundation Scripture: **Isaiah 53:3** – Jesus was despised and rejected.

- A. The **PAIN** of rejection is so intense that we build systems of protection.
- B. The walls we build to keep people from hurting us are built by:
 - 1. **Inner vows** – Promises we make to ourselves to protect ourselves.
 - a. Examples: “Nobody will ever hurt me again.”
“I’ll never trust anyone again.”
 - 2. **Pretense** – That we don’t care, and it didn’t hurt anyway
 - 3. **Self-defense**
 - 4. **Buying protection** – Giving to people, doing things for them to get them to really like you.
 - a. Buying “acceptance” or “rejection protection” through **PERFECTION**.
 - b. **The price we pay for perfection**

II. What Is Perfection, And What Does The Bible Say About It?

- A. Perfection (defined) – Lacking nothing essential; being in a state of highest excellence; **FLAWLESS, EXACT, COMPLETE, FAULTLESS, WITHOUT DEFECT**, and supremely excellent.
- B. Scripture references:

1. **Matthew 5:48** (KJV) – *Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father . . . is perfect.*
2. **II Corinthians 13:11** (KJV) – *Finally, brethren, farewell. **Be perfect**, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.*
3. **Genesis 17:1** – When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, “Walk before Me and be thou perfect.”
4. How are we to **perform** this?

- a. **Galatians 3:3** – Will you be perfected by your works?
- b. **Galatians 3:10** – The Law is perfect. If I can keep the Law, I’ll be perfect.

Doomed to disappointment – this is one price we pay for striving to be perfect.

- c. **Galatians 4:21** – Slavery = Works
Freedom = Promise
- d. **John 10:10** – Loss of joy is another price we pay for striving to be perfect.
- e. **Matthew 11:18-19, 28** – Exhaustion and burnout (physical, mental, and emotional)

This is yet another price we pay for striving to be perfect.

- f. **Matthew: Chapter 12**

C. We try, try, try; struggle, struggle, struggle.

1. Pray Act right
Read Be on the right committee
Be kind

2. **Galatians 3:11-13** – Not through the Law but through faith in Jesus
3. **Galatians 5:22-23** – Fruits of the Spirit

III. Legal Or Black-Market Perfection?

- A. Jesus, “**The Perfect One**,” is my Lord, Savior, friend, brother, and my Intercessor in good standing with God Almighty.

Example: Rich woman with beggar brother who had lost his way

- B. **I Corinthians 13:10** – When the perfect comes, the imperfect will be done away with.

- C. **Psalms 8:6** – We don’t see everything under our feet, but **we DO see Jesus**.

- D. Legal perfection

1. **Leviticus 22:20** shows how they could not bring anything imperfect and offer it to the Lord.

2. **Leviticus 22:17-21** – It would not be accepted if it was not perfect.

3. Blood sprinkled on everything

4. Jesus – The **PERFECT SPOTLESS** Lamb (**Hebrews 7:28**)

Perfect (defined/Vine’s) – FULL grown, mature, complete, brought to the end; points out a path of progress.

5. **Hebrews 7:11** – If perfection was attainable under the Old Covenant, we wouldn’t have needed a new one.

6. **Hebrews 7:25** – He is able to **perfect** completely because of His **continual intercession**.

- a. Example: A person trying to go to the theatre without the perfect ticket, but he is a personal friend of the manager. The manager intercedes for him with the ticket taker. As a result, the ticket taker says, “Great! No more questions. Come in!”
 - b. **Romans 8:34** – Jesus does not condemn us. He intercedes for us.
- 7. **Hebrews 9:9** – Works are incapable of perfecting the inner man, “the conscience.”
 - 8. **Hebrews 10:14** – He has forever, completely **perfected** those who are in Christ.

IV. Okay, I Am Accepted By God! Through Christ, He Sees Me Perfect! What About People?

- A. They pressure me, reject me, and aren’t ever satisfied with me.
- B. Beware of the “Performance Trap.”
 - 1. Example: Roxane
 - a. Performance/Acceptance Syndrome
 - b. When she didn’t perform perfectly, she stopped receiving.
 - 2. Don’t buy a ticket to the show! People try to be perfect by putting on airs and pretending.
 - 3. **Luke 10:16** – If they reject you, they reject Me.

Samuel was rejected. God said, “They are not rejecting you, Samuel, but Me.”

4. **Matthew 21:42** – *Jesus asked them, Have you never read in the Scriptures: The very Stone which the builders rejected and threw away has become the Cornerstone; this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?"*

The Stone the builders rejected has become the Chief Cornerstone.

- C. **Philippians 3:12** – Press on.
- D. **Philippians 1:6** – Right up until Jesus comes
- E. **Psalm 18:30-33** – He makes my way perfect.
- F. **Matthew 5:48** – Be perfect [grow into complete maturity].

Manipulation, Control, And The Fear Of Man

Summary: “Rejection Protection”
Perfection – God
“If I am perfect, God will be pleased.”

This Teaching: Perfection – People
How the root of rejection affects our relationships with people

Foundation Scripture: **Isaiah 53:3** – Jesus was despised and rejected.

I. Manipulation, Control, And The Fear Of Man

- A. Be a God pleaser not a man pleaser (or self-pleaser) – the **main theme** of this teaching.
 - 1. **Galatians 1:10**
 - 2. **John 12:42-43**
 - 3. **John 5:44**
- B. Stop living to avoid rejection and believe you can handle it.
 - 1. **Isaiah 53:3**

II. Led By The Spirit

- A. **Romans 7:6** – Promptings
- B. **Romans 8:4, 14-15**

- C. **Galatians 5:1, 16-17**
- D. **Romans 12:2** – Transformed or conformed?
 - 1. This is one reason why it takes so long for us to change.
- E. Man pleasing is a sin (**Romans 14:23**).
 - 1. You will be tempted just like in any other sin.
 - 2. You must resist temptation – this is part of getting free.
 - 3. **LEARN TO “DO IT AFRAID.”**

III. Learn To “Do It Afraid.”

- A. Manipulation (defined) – To manage or influence shrewdly or deviously. To control or tamper with by skilled use for personal gain.
- B. Control (defined) – To check by duplicate register. To direct, influence, restrain, regulate, curb, exercise authority over, and prevent.
- C. **Romans 8:2** – The law of the Spirit of life sets us free from the law of sin and death.
- D. Fear of displeasing
- E. Fear of anger
- F. Scriptures:
 - 1. **Romans 8:31**
 - 2. **Psalms 118:6**
 - 3. **Psalms 27:1**
 - 4. **Hebrews 13:6**

G. What will they think?

What will they say?

What will they do or not do?

IV. Don't Let The Fear Of Rejection Rule Your Life.

A. **Luke 10:16**

B. **Matthew 21:42**

C. “If they reject you – they reject Me!”

