

THE ROOT OF BITTERNESS

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Scripture References:

Hebrews 12:15; Ephesians 4:26-32

Hebrews 12:15, *Looking carefully, lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble and by this many become defiled.*

1. ***Looking carefully***
 - A. We can't always see ourselves the way we are.
 1. You need to ask an honest person, to tell you the truth.
 - B. Secondly, look carefully because we can't always see others the way they truly are.
2. Look carefully ***lest anyone (else) fall short of the grace of God.***
 - A. Grace - You do get what you don't deserve.
Mercy - You don't get what you do deserve.
 - B. We sometimes forget that we are living in the day of grace.
 1. We think spirit-filled people should act better than that.
3. ***Lest any root of bitterness***
 - A. bitterness (PIKRIA - "poison")
4. ***Springing Up***
 - A. springing (PHUO - "germinate or grow")
5. ***Lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble***
 - A. KJV - *trouble you*
 - B. trouble (ENOCHLEO - "give self wholly to")
6. ***And by this, many become defiled***
 - A. defiled (MIAINO - "contaminated")

Ephesians 4:26-27, 29-32, *26 Be angry, and do not sin: do not let the sun go down on your wrath: 27 nor give place to the devil. 29 Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness wrath, anger, clamor and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. 32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.*

1. ***Be Angry***
2. ***Do not sin***
 - A. Anger is not sin, but anger is a certain route to sin, if not corrected.
3. ***Do not let the sun go down on your wrath***
 - A. Your wrath
4. ***Nor give place to the devil***
 - A. The real enemy is not the angry person giving you problems

5. ***Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth***
 - A. Your mouth
 - B. Wrong behavior is still wrong, no matter who does it.

6. ***Necessary edification***
 - A. Edification is necessary
 1. It is not an option. If you do not edify, you do not build the relationship.
 - B. It imparts grace to the hearers.
 1. Grace - You get what you don't deserve.
 2. Mercy - You do not get what you do deserve.

7. ***Do not grieve the Holy Spirit***
 - A. Grieving the Holy Spirit
 - B. By whom you were sealed until the day of redemption.
 1. Your righteousness is only by grace
 2. That angry person could easily have been you.
 3. The day of redemption

8. ***Let all bitterness wrath, anger, clamor and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.***
 - A. The process of bitterness
 1. bitterness
 2. wrath
 3. anger
 4. clamor
 5. evil speaking
 6. malice

 - B. When you deal with the root, the other symptoms leave automatically, almost instantly.

9. ***And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.***
 - A. This is the proof that you are healed.
 - B. Even as God in Christ forgave you

Conclusion :

Forgiveness (Woman caught in adultery) [Piece of paper - Name of person]

I will never bring it up against you again.

3 steps:

I know what you did.

Neither do I condemn you

Go and sin no more