

## THE NOOSE CALLED BITTERNESS

PASTOR TIMOTHY GREEN

Luke 17:1 Then said he unto the disciples, It is impossible but that offences will come:

It is inevitable, it is certain, people are going to do us wrong in life. It doesn't matter who we are, it doesn't matter how good we live, it doesn't matter how spiritual we may be, offences will come.

We can't control what other people do to us or how they act toward us or what they say about us, but we can and we must control our response and our feelings concerning the things that are done to us, those things that the devil would like to use to destroy us.

We all know that we have an enemy who wants to kill, steal and destroy us. And one of his favorite weapons that he uses to try his best to take us out, is the root called bitterness.

We know the dangers of the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the pride of life. We all know those dangers and know that we need to keep a sharp eye out for the ways the devil wants to trip us up with those things and in those areas but he doesn't just attack us from the outside, he also attacks us on the inside.

If he can't blow your house down, he will try and come down your chimney. If he can't get at your body, then he will attack your spirit.

You are going to be hurt in life and there is nothing that you can do to stop it.

Some people that do you wrong might ask for forgiveness, but there will probably be others who will never acknowledge their wrong, therefore they will never ask for forgiveness.

You may be hurt by a father or mother, a sister or brother, a boss or a co-worker, a husband or a wife, a brother or sister in the church or maybe even by a preacher, somewhere by someone, you are going to be hurt and the wound is going to be deep and the pain is going to be intense and it is then, at that time, that the enemy of your soul is going to be hoping, hoping, hoping, that you will allow your hurt to turn into bitterness. The enemy of your soul is hoping that you will allow your spirit to be offended and that hatred will fill your heart.

Whenever you get hurt, depending upon the severity of the hurt, you may at once be filled with rage, with anger, with resentment toward that person or you may hide it and suppress it and stuff it down deep on the inside of you but if that hurt is not dealt with properly, the day will come, when that seed of bitterness we germinate and take root and spring up and damn your soul to a devil's hell!