

The notes for this volume of study are not meant to be a “method” – but rather a “reference of helps” to the readers as individuals. A “bank of encouragement” – with the Lord as our source!

DEALING WITH THE REJECTION AND PRAISE OF MAN

- I. There are two ways we are healed from the wounds of past rejections:
 - A. Through the Sovereign Work of **G** administered to our hearts by the Power of the Holy Ghost.
 - B. Through the illuminations of **T** to our minds. When God’s truth finds good soil in our hearts – through His Word – it lodges within us and renews our minds.
- II. The purpose of this book is to work with the second dynamic of healing our wounds.
 - A. God’s Word ministers **W** and **F** through truth!
 - B. These truths will search the depths of:
 - 1) Your inner **A**.
 - 2) Your inner **M**.
 - C. Let God’s Word (truth) set you free from:
 - 1) The power of **R** woundings.
 - 2) The entrapment of **M** praises.
 - D. The truths that set us free from both of these extremes are amazingly **S**.
 - 1) Proverbs 4:18 – a word for ever increasing Freedom!

I. Chapter 1 – REJECTION – The Universal Malady.

- A. Our world is filled with **R**!
- B. List 8 areas of rejection (4 from the book and 4 of our own):
 - 1 _____
 - 2 _____
 - 3 _____
 - 4 _____
 - 5 _____
 - 6 _____
 - 7 _____
 - 8 _____
- C. Every human being knows what it is to **F** rejection.
- D. We have two basic problems in this rejection area:
 - 1) Because of our brokenness through **S** we are very capable of **D** rejection.
 - 2) And our sinful fallenness also makes us **S** to receiving rejection when none was intended.

- E. Rejection takes many **F**_____:
- 1) Hurtful **W**_____.
 - 2) Withdrawn **A**_____.
 - 3) Unspoken **G**_____.
 - 4) Unreciprocated **L**_____.
 - 5) Malicious **A**_____.
- F. We often construct self-protection mechanisms to **I**_____ us from recurrences of reject injury!
- 1) These **W**_____ alone are evidence that we have been injured more than we thought!
 - 2) **R**_____ with others suffer as we distance ourselves because of past pain....
 - 3) Then we **S**_____ to find full satisfaction in the relationship God has given us. Rejection has left a **S**_____.
 - 4) We make “Inner Vows” against the **H**_____ of rejection “We will never be hurt like that again!”
 - a) This “protection” from further rejection usually traps us into a pattern of behavior that binds us to the **B**_____ of the past.
 - b) Once we have been wounded by rejection – **R**_____ become a great risk.
 - c) Even **M**_____ become a gamble as we discover we often suffer the greatest wounds of rejection from those who love us more!
- G. Remember, feelings of rejection are a result of broken **H**_____, our **F**_____, our **I**_____ at relating to one another in the perfection of Christ.
- 1) Also, other people may feel rejected by us for any number of reasons and we are not aware of it initially.
- H. Whatever state we find ourselves in – rejection or praise – let us be encouraged to know we have the Holy Spirit who is here to **G**_____ us into all truth. Lifting us from the pits of rejection and saving us from the traps of man’s praise.

II. Chapter 2 – Even Jesus experienced rejection:

- A. You alone know the depths of your own **H**_____.
- 1) The bitterness of **R**_____.
 - 2) Depths of **MisU**_____.
 - 3) Wounds of private **P**_____.
 - 4) **S**_____ silently – in ways known only to God.

- B. God's (Jesus) rejection:
- 1) Mutiny of **M** _____.
 - 2) Betrayal of **L** _____.
 - 3) Rejected by **M** _____ - Isaiah 53:3, John 1:11, John 15:18
 - 4) Rejected by His **H** _____.
 a) Jesus was perfect and was still rejected!!!
 - 5) Rejected by the religious **L** _____ of His day – Luke 11:53-54.
- C. Jesus & Jeremiah compared – because no Old Testament prophet suffered **R** _____ like Jeremiah! Matt 16:13-14
- 1) He prophesized faithfully what God gave him – as a result almost everyone **H** _____ him.
 - 2) He had wronged no one – but because He was God's mouthpiece – everyone **C** _____ him.
 - 3) The people of Jesus day said, "Jesus reminds us of John the Baptist, Elijah, or **J** _____."
- D. The **R** _____ of rejection:
- 1) Earthly rejection, properly **E** _____, is an opportunity to gain Heavenly Treasure.
 - 2) Don't just share your valuable **L** _____ with anyone –
 - 3) Matthew 7:6
 - 4) Jesus does intend that we turn our **P** _____ to **P** _____! Acts 14:22
 - 5) The Pearls of Great Price is the People of God – the **B** _____ of Christ who came through great tribulation.

III. Chapter 3 – REJECTION: God's Specialty Tool

- A. In this life the Masters workbench holds many tools with which He forms His **S** _____ into the image of Christ!
- B. The tool of rejection is one with which He **A** _____ the maturity of His chosen vessels.
- C. When God destines a saint for extraordinary **I** _____ in the Body of Christ, He prepares him/her through the rejection of people.
- 1) This will **T** _____ this person to the reality of rejection.
 - 2) It will help **S** _____ this person to how easily rejection can be inflicted on others!
 - 3) Because of this sensitivity the servant – leader will handle the flock of God with exceptional **C** _____ and tenderness.
- D. It is to these sensitized shepherds that God can entrust greater **I** _____.

E. David's rejections:

- 1) David was not in Jesse's memory bank when the Prophet **S** came to choose a King of Israel!
- 2) David was rejected by his **B** when he came with supplies to the battlefield – Eliab voiced his rejection of David. I Samuel 17:28.
- 3) King Saul tried to **K** David repeatedly...
- 4) David's wife – **M**, despised him. II Samuel 6:20.
- 5) David's sons, **A** and **A** tried to overthrow him!
- 6) David "handled" all this rejection by continually withdrawing to the **S** place where he:
 - a) Renewed his **H** in God.
 - b) Renewed his **C** in God.
- 7) Because David knew that God loved him and accepted him – he could keep an accurate **P** on the rejection of men!

F. God designs rejections for our **B**:

- 1) David and Absalom are prime examples of rejection and an individual's response to God *or* against God!
- 2) A substantial step toward "Freedom of Soul" is made when we are able to see God as the **A** of life's rejections and not men!
- 3) If we respond **P** to it, the rejection will be used by God to shape and conform us to the image of Christ.
- 4) However, as long as we perceive men as the source of the rejection we will **S** in our attitude toward them.
- 5) We need to begin to give thanks to God who allows our rejection for higher **P**.
- 6) Those whom God loves are always rejected the **M**....

G. Rejection is a vital **I** in the training up of endtime leaders, and after we're trained and raised up it **C** to be a necessary tool to maintain and guard our hearts in humility!

H. When people reject you, but you are **F** on the inside with the profound affections of your Father for you – then you are able to give yourself to your fellow man regardless of how he treats you.

IV. Chapter 4 – The Real Source of Healing

- A. Learning to respond properly to rejection is a **P** that takes many years.
- B. Children are often **W** most by rejection.
- C. Children do not have the **T** to handle rejection right.
- D. Christian maturity is NOT an **I** attainment, but rather a *lifelong process* – SO give yourself **T** to master the principles of overcoming rejection.
- E. If we allow it, rejection can **D** us into a place of finding God.
- F. The Principles involved in responding *redemptively* to rejection.
 - 1) Jesus whole **M** was –
 - a) **T** – but not offended
 - b) **V** to the soul – but not embittered
 - c) **P** by rejection – but not wounded
 - 2) Rejection hurts, but in need not **W**.
 - 3) The *Healing Balm* (#1) we need IS – the unparalleled **A** of our Father which operates as an internal wellspring of love that flows from the heart of our heavenly Father to us.
 - a) When we have been **S** by rejection, we need to learn to retreat to the Secret Place to be renewed and cleansed by the **A** of our loving Heavenly Father.
 - b) Rejection is a trial – BUT the acceptance of our Father is the healing **O**.
 - 4) *Forgiveness* (#2) – is also one of the first steps in being healed from the ravages of rejection...by extending total forgiveness to those who have **W** us.
 - a) Jesus model of forgiveness was stated like this, “Father, forgive them for they **K** not what they do.” Luke 23:24.
 - b) This model shows us Jesus already forgave his tormentors – now he was asking His **F** to forgive them too.
 - c) Stephen also gave this example, “Lord, do not **C** them with this sin.” Acts 7:60
 - d) When you **R** your offenders from the judgment of their sin, you **B** the power of unforgiveness and find a new release to relate in **F** to others who sin against you!

- 5) *Accept (#3) Your Father's Love –*
- a) When this **L** really touches your heart, it *burns away* the cords that rejection would bind around your heart.
 - b) THE KEY is: You must **B** - John 3:16. God loves YOU this much....
 - c) Once we believe – we must **R** His love! When we take in His love we will find ourselves – renewed, saturated, strengthened, sustained, lifted, empowered by the greatest power in the Universe – His Love
 - d) The devils aim is to keep us from **A** and receiving God's Love. Could God *really* love you that much? Timothy 4:1 – When we doubt the Father's Love we are straying from the Faith!
 - e) Let the Holy Spirit place this deep within your **C**: You are wildly and irrevocably loved and enjoyed by God!
- 6) Until you are **E** on the inside in the Love of God, you will always be susceptible to the rejection's woundings! (Read the paragraph of this sentence over again).

V. Chapter 5 – Your Source of Acceptance...Jesus plus nothing else!

- A. When **G** accepts me, I need acceptance from no one else.
 - 1) When we realize we are accepted and embraced by the great God of the universe, the acceptance of **P** becomes secondary
- B. If the Father is approving of our lives, the **W** can line up against us, but it won't be able to wound us *on the inside* – because *on the inside* we are feeding on the Father's affirmation.
- C. This teaching does *not* advocate an independent **S** or a condescending attitude that says, "I have heard from God so scram or save your advice."
 - 1) The Lord has called us to walk in inter-**D** with our fellow believers in the Body of Christ! I Corinthians 12
- D. We look to each other for **E**, for counsel, for **P** support, for practical help, for wisdom, for perspective, for correction – BUT *not* for our **S** of acceptance!
- E. **BALANCE** – and one of the greatest challenges in Christian maturity:
 - 1) To make myself vulnerable to your **K** and **A**.
 - 2) While not allowing myself to be penetrated by our **R**!

- F. It is a sign of maturity when we can receive correction without I it as rejection.
- G. SOURCE of ACCEPTANCE - We will not be healed of rejection by A the source of your rejection, but by L at the source of acceptance. Hebrew 12:2.
- 1) When we yearn for others acceptance, we O ourselves to their rejection.
 - 2) When we hope for man's acceptance, we make ourselves V to man's rejection!
 - 3) When you are C in your Heavenly Father's acceptance, you will no longer crave earthly acceptance.
- H. Closing the door on rejection:
- 1) Remember, if man's acceptance will build you up – man's rejection will D you. Ecc. 7:21
 - 2) Jesus was not touched by the praise of man and was therefore not W by the rejection of man.
 - 3) Jesus found His complete identity in His F acceptance *and* so can you and I!
- I. We can not serve T masters –Matthews 6:24:
- 1) We can not look for acceptance from B God and man.
 - 2) When we seek someone's acceptance, we try to P him.
 - 3) Whomever we desire to please, we become his S
 - 4) We must decide – are we trying to P God or man?
Proverbs 16:7

VI. **Chapter 6 – The SNARE of Man's Praise:**

- (this thought is captured in Jesus question. John 5:44)
- A. Jesus denounced the religious leaders of His day because they were driven by the N to garner men's approval.
- 1) Luke 20:46 – dressed in long robes to be admired, receiving many greetings in the market place because of their position, having the best seats in the Synagogues and the best places at feasts, also because of their positions.
 - 2) Matthew 23:5 – ALL their works they do to be seen by men.
- B. We would I the example of the Apostle Paul who did not seek to please men, but to please God *alone*. I Thess. 2:4-6
- C. Seeking the P (approval) of God, is in itself an all consuming pursuit. Matthew 25:23, I Cor.3 :12-15
- D. There are two practical reasons why we should *NOT* seek the praise of men:
- 1) #1 People are U
 - 2) Even Christians are U
 - a) Take note – we will all have experience in rejection in the Body of Christ as we have many weaknesses

- b) Take note – even Christian **L** _____ with their best and most sincere efforts are undependable.
- 3) We are to love one another and be faithful to one another – but to **T** _____ in God alone!
- 4) #2 The **O** _____ of people are insignificant. II Cor. 10:18
 - a) When you stand before God’s throne – *Both* your opinion of yourself and the opinions of others will be **I** _____
 - b) Psalms says “The Praises of Men are lighter than a **V** _____!” Psalm 62:9
 - c) We live for one thing – the **P** _____ of God.
- 1) If we are overlooked or left “unnamed” – there are two reasons God chooses to leave us anonymous:
 - a) To save us from the **S** _____ of fame....
 - b) To give opportunity for **R** _____ from the desire for recognition.
- E. Another related issues with “Man’s Praise” is this – The root of **A** _____ IS THE fear of rejection! Proverbs 29:25
 - 1) The fear of man **S** _____, but the fear of God **F** _____!
 - 2) Whoever **T** _____ in the Lord *will be safe*.
 - 3) The fear of man will *freeze* our **A** _____ to move with God!

VII. Chapter 7 – Jesus and the Praise of Man

- A. Jesus **W** _____ over the city of Jerusalem as people were praising Him.
- B. Unaffected by the praises, He felt His Father’s **H** _____ over the people who would not receive Him.
- C. When we are **E** _____ by men’s praises, we lose our **D** _____! *Don’t* believe your own press!!!
- D. Man’s praise will cause us to loose:
 - 1) The ability to **D** _____ the Father’s agenda.
 - 2) The ability to **D** _____ the false **M** _____ of men.
- E. This is the main reason why Christians of “Higher anointing” have fallen in various traps – the Praise of Men – from even sincere people... The **C** _____ of disappointment and the lack of recognition will keep us from self-**D** _____.
- F. We NEED to hear the inner voice of the Holy Spirit saying to us, “You are my **B** _____ child in whom I am well pleased.”
- G. Receiving Honor from men:
 - 1) Jesus said, “I do not **R** _____ honor from men,” Jn. 5:41
 - 2) The Bible says this to us, “looking unto Jesus the **A** _____ and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him – endured the cross, despised the shame-“ Hebrews 12:2
 - a) Jesus joy was to please His father.

- b) And receive **H** from His Father
- 3) Hold out for the **H** honor – Just as Jesus did.
Philippians 2:9-11 Look for God’s honor as Jesus did!

VIII. Chapter 8 – How Daniel handled the Praise of Man – Daniel 6:3

- A. Daniel was told twice that he was “Greatly **B** by God.
 - 1. Daniel 10:11, 19
- B. Daniel – the semi retired “Secretary of State” of Babylon, the “has been” for the former King Nebuchadnezzar’s cabinet, only remembered by two people - God and Queen Mother...turned down all offers by King Belshazzar...The “Out to Pasture” menial task government worker avoided being **S** by the King’s honors, refused all **R** and prestigious advancements! Thankfully, his discernment was still very much intact...the King and his court would be dead by morning.
- C. Daniel was safe, because he lived only for the honor of **G** could bestow!
- D. When God has a man like Daniel, who is not touched by the praise of men, He is able to **A** His purposes in the earth.

IX. Chapter 9 – The Critical Implications of OVERCOMING:

- A. The issues at state in this subject are absolutely crucial in their significance.
 - 1) If we come to terms with the Praise of Man, we will be guided toward the path of true Kingdom **F**.
 - 2) If we lose here, we hazard becoming **C** in the war that rages around us.
- B. Release of **K** Authority
 - 1) The first issue is – Will God find worthy vessels with which He can **E** the higher dimensions of Kingdom Authority.
 - a) There is nothing more **D** in the kingdom than someone who has a little bit of power flowing through their lives, but who is **T** by men’s praises...
 - b) How can God give miracle working power to people who **F** off the praise of men – they will self-destruct.
 - c) Jesus **P** was not that He looked good – but that His Father looked good. In return the Father honored Him with **M**.
 - d) God will **A** and empower believers who seek to capture the hearts of others for His Son – *Not for themselves!*
 - 2) The Second issue is – The “I” word (Idolatry):
 - a) When I am “feeding off **S**” other than Christ – this is called Idolatry.

- b) **D** _____ the will of the Father was Jesus source of nourishment and delight – John 4:34
 - c) Possibly the greatest stronghold in the lives of believers everywhere – being **N** _____ by the approval and honor of men.
 - d) God wants to be our only **S** _____
- 3) The Third Issues is – Accuracy of Ministry
- a) If we speak something from our own hearts, out of our own resources – we are subconsciously **G** _____ for the praises of men. John 7:18
 - b) The one who speaks the message of God has only one **C** _____ to look good in God’s eyes and deliver God’s message as faithfully as he /she can.
 - c) Jesus called such a person “**T** _____”, or the person who hit the bulls eye of the target! He/she will be pleasing in the eyes of God.
- 4) The Fourth Issues is – Free of all Men
- a) Paul said to the Galatians, “Stand fast I the **L** _____ wherewith Christ hath made us free and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.”
 - b) We only live under the **D** _____ of trying to protect what we own...when we have *something to lose*.
 - c) When we have *nothing to lose* (ie, The praise of men) – we are **F** _____! We can not be:
 - 1) **B** _____
 - 2) **B** _____
 - 3) **C** _____
 - d) When we no longer **R** _____ the praise of men, we are free of all men. We are free to love all men equally and unconditionally regardless of their attitude or action toward me.
 - e) *This is the freedom Jesus died to give us!*

X. Chapter 10 – God’s COMMITMENT to Help us Overcome

- A. We must recognize that it is possible to impress people and Not have the full **P** _____ of God!
- B. One exercise would help us to maintain our focus in this endeavor of “Pleasing God” – that whatever we do – it is for an audience of **O** _____! II Corinthians 4:5
- C. We need to be aware that if we are not careful in our delivery of God’s message that the listeners can come away – with the wrong message – for example...
 - 1) Remembering the messenger more than **C** _____!
 - 2) Becoming more focused on the vessel than even on the **M** _____!

- 3) We must be careful not to proclaim **O** . No matter what our position is – Minister, Worship Leader, Youth Leader, Christian Drama Director – you name it!
- D. There is (if we are willing to admit it) something in all of us that **E** the attention and praises of people!
- 1) However, God will not **E** His Bride to servants who desire the Bride’s affections! Hegai is a solid example of this – No personal desires toward Esther whom he served – Esther 2:15
- E. God is **P** “Spiritual Eunuchs” whom He can entrust with His Bride!
- 1) Leaders who will not **D** the Bride’s affections, praise and attention.
 - 2) God is **R** the mechanism that desires the recognition of man.
 1. The King will find them **W** of the highest entrustment – to feed, nurture, and prepare the Bride for her wedding day.
- F. Hegai – was a True **F** of the Bridegroom. John the Baptist called himself a friend of the Bridegroom....John 3:29
1. Sincere leaders in the church desire to be a **T** Friend to Christ.
 2. A True Friend seeks to **P** the Bride’s affections for the Bridegroom alone.
 3. The Bride needs to be careful not to give her attention to the True Friend in the **A** of the Bridegroom!
 4. How many times and ways do we praise the True Friend – instead of the Bridegroom? And we must know that the **B** will praise the Friend!
 5. The Question then becomes – what will *We* do as the Friend of the Bridegroom with this Praise – Believe it, Love it, Look for it, **D** in the praise? If we do, we no longer are a friend, but a competitor!
 6. The Groom’s **S** is the Bride’s affections.
- G. *When* our flesh is gratified by the praise of the Bride, Praise of men (both represent the Church), We should:
1. Be aware of the **T** of our Flesh and have a sense of alertness as to what is happening – a check, a sense of pain, a light goes on – in our head or heart...”watch it!”
 2. Now know the extent to which the **E** of men’s praise can lead us and pray that God will make us even more sensitive.
 3. Our aim should be as a creed – “I will not receive honor from men.”
 4. As we live in the greater light of His revelation in this arena – we may often feel we are doing **W** .

5. The Victory in this area is not so much as **A** _____ as a lifelong journey of *Dying to Self*.
6. As we give our hearts to serving Him with purer **M** _____ - we should not be surprised to sense a deeper dimension of affection from His heart to ours.

XI. Chapter 11 – HOW should I Praise Other People (three questions.)

A. The three questions are:

1. Should I **P** _____ other people?
2. If so, then **H** _____ do I do that properly?
3. And, How should I **R** _____ when others affirm and praise me?

B. Question #1 – We do not **S** _____ the praise of other people, but we DO seek to **H** _____ and **A** _____ and **E** _____ other believers as much as possible.

1. *Honor others in a fitting way* – But we do not seek the honor of people because we do NOT find our **I** _____ or **F** _____ in their praise!
2. Scriptures show us we are to **A** _____ one another on a continual basis in these ways:
 - a) **L** _____ others – John 13:34
 - b) **E** _____ others – I Thessalonians 3:2
 - c) Kindly **A** _____ toward others – Romans 12:10
 - d) **R** _____ others – Romans 15:7
 - e) **A** _____ others – Romans 15:14
 - f) **T** _____ towards others – Ephesians 4:32
 - g) **C** _____ and **E** _____ others – I Thessalonians 5:11
 - h) **E** _____ others daily – Hebrews 3:13
 - i) **C** _____ others to stir them up for good – Hebrews 10:24
 - j) Have **C** _____ for others – I Peter 3:8
 - k) **S** _____ others – Luke 22:32
 - l) **E** _____ others (build up) – Romans 14:19
3. **P** _____, properly *express* and *received*, will strengthen us in our walk.
 - a) God has made us to **N** _____ encouragement from one another.
 - b) Praise and affirmation can **B** _____ our courage to persevere in our warfare.
 - c) God has intended that we **H** _____ on another forward with our words.
4. Paul did not withhold his praise from the Corinthian Church (I Corinthians 11:2) for the things that were right – but for the

things that were **A** he did not praise them I Corinthians 11:17, 22

C. Question #2 – How should I affirm others?

1. We are to encourage others but we do not want to **F** an individual's carnality.
2. It is the "Receivers Responsibility" to **H** the praise, encouragement and affirmation properly!
3. HOW – Praise and Encouragement must be given with:
 - a) Discernment – Selectively and **C**.
 - b) Strategically – not just for an **E** prop!
 - c) Jesus commended Peter by affirming the Work of **G** in Peter...
 - d) So we should affirm what God is doing in someone by His **G** !...even when we see their **S** !!!
4. The Apostle Paul always used this form of praise – always giving God the **C** for their growth in: obedience, giftings, giving, faith and expressions of love.
5. In one phrase Paul did two things:
 - a) Praised their spiritual **A**.
 - b) Gave ALL the credit to **G**
6. Remember the example: I thank God for" phrase that Paul used in affirming others.

XII. Chapter 12 – How Should I Respond when Others Praise me?:

A. Remember the first two points in this book:

1. The praise of man is a **S**.
2. We need to get the victory over the **D** for men's praise.
 - a) God can not entrust the higher **D** of Kingdom authority and power to vessels that are nurtured by the praises of men.
 - b) When we **F** off the praise of men, we are actually succumbing to **I** - finding our sustenance in something other than Christ Himself.
 - c) It is only as we are free from wanting to **I** people and seek to **H** God alone in our ministries that we are able to find true accuracy in Spiritual Warfare, where our ministry truly "Hits the mark".
 - d) Those who are not touched by the praise of men become **F** of all men. There are **F** to love all men equally and completely, regardless to whether they are **R** or loved in return. It is the place of Total Freedom

- B. What should I do – when others affirm me?
1. When others affirm you, the fire it turned high, and the true **A** of your heart begin to surface.
 2. God will use the **C** you receive to show you your heart.
 3. When another praises us – we do not receive the praise – we receive **T**! Example – “Thank you for your love”. We receive the Person and their love.
 4. The Body of Christ will never come to full **M** and **F** until we receive each other as equal members of the body! We need to receive each and every member. II Corinthians 6:11-13
- C. Review the major points of this book on paged 84-86.