

Bitterness Toward God

Ruth 1:19-20

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I. Setting: Bitterness Toward Circumstances is Acute

A. Three Biblical examples of bitterness

1. _____ bitterness over the loss of his _____. (Genesis 27:24; Hebrews 12:15-17)
2. _____ bitterness over her failure to _____; (1 Samuel 1:4-11)
3. _____ bitterness over denying _____. (Matthew 26:35, 75)

B. Theological lessons you can learn from your circumstances.

1. Bitterness is sowed when your heart desires the _____ of this life more than _____.
2. Bitterness does not come from your _____; it comes from your _____ of your _____.
3. Bitterness can be a _____ if it is your response to _____.

II. Source: Bitterness Toward God is the Root

A. When you are focused on what self wants, you are no longer focused on what God wants.

1. Selfish lusts and desires ruling your heart are not seen until _____ and _____ circumstances ignite your bitterness.
2. Out of bitterness your flesh will want to accuse God of _____, believing that He has made an _____ with your life.

B. Doubt and mistrust of God's benevolent sovereignty is the core sinfulness of bitterness.

1. Can you trust the _____ of God in your life?
2. Can you rely upon His _____ without surrendering to continual bitterness?

III. Sign: Bitterness Toward Others is the Fruit

A. When you are bitter toward God it is easy to focus that bitterness on others!

- 1 Samuel 18:7-16
- _____ turns on _____ in anger and bitterness!

B. Unforgiveness is a sign of your failure to remember your unworthiness of God's forgiveness while continuing to be bitter.

- Matthew 7:1-5
- Bitterness blocks _____!