

OFFENDED IN JESUS

What does it mean to be offended in Jesus?

When Jesus was about to be arrested in The Garden of Gethsemane, He said this to His disciples.

Mark 14:27 - And Jesus saith unto them, All ye shall be offended because of Me this night: for it is written, I will smite the Shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered.

When they came and arrested Jesus the disciples did not understand what was happening and they certainly did scatter. Let's look at another occurrence of being offended because of Jesus.

Matt.13:54-58 - And when He was come into His own country, He taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, Whence (How) hath this *Man* this wisdom, and *these* mighty works? Is not this the carpenter's son? is not His mother called Mary? and His brethren, James, and Joses (Joseph), and Simon, and Judas? And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then hath this *Man* all these things? And they were offended in Him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house. And He did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.

They could not understand how He obtained the knowledge to teach as He did. They knew He had grown up there and they were familiar with His earthly family. They counted Him as a nobody, just a regular person and they did not respect Him at all. They thought He was beneath them and they gave Him no honor nor regard at all. They had no belief in Him. They were offended in Him.

When I asked Scott what he thought it meant to be offended in Jesus, he said he thought it meant to be persecuted. Now we're getting there. Let's look at the lesson Jesus taught about sowing seeds, in particular let's look at what happened to the seed that was sown on stony ground.

Mark 4:16-17 – And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness; And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended.

They fall away as soon as they have problems or are persecuted for believing God's Word. They are not strong enough to endure the persecution that comes against them because of God's Word. If you speak His Word, live His Word, stand on His Word, you speak of Jesus, you will be persecuted. As real Christians, we don't live our lives the same way the world does. We don't do the same things unbelievers do. For example, we don't believe in abortion, we don't get drunk, or cuss or say filthy words, we don't watch movies that show nudity or cuss like sailors. We don't participate in the pagan feast days. We are responsible with what God blesses us with and we support God's Kingdom instead of just throwing our money away on frivolous and ungodly things or only on self. We do our best to love our enemies and bless them, pray for them instead of trying to get even or run them down. When you deny yourself, pick up your cross and follow Jesus, you will be persecuted.

Now I want to take a look at John the Baptist and what happened to him. John the Baptist was Jesus' cousin. He would have been about 6 months old when Jesus came into the body that God created for Him as the baby that Mary had. Mary had gone to visit Elizabeth when Elizabeth was pregnant with John and Mary was pregnant with Jesus. When Mary greeted Elizabeth, the baby, John, leaped in Elizabeth's womb and Elizabeth was filled with The Holy Spirit and prophesied. She knew that Mary was carrying the Savior of the whole world. **(Luke 1:39-45)** Apparently this was not broadcast to everyone and not even to John as we will see later on.

As the boys grew up, the time for Jesus to begin His earthly ministry drew near and that is when He came to John to be baptized. John saw The Holy Spirit come down on Jesus and he heard God say that this is His beloved Son in Whom He is well pleased. **(Matt.3:17)**

By this time John knew exactly Who Jesus was. John was the forerunner, the one whom God sent to ready the people for the coming of Jesus. **(Isaiah 40:3-5, John 1:23)** When John was imprisoned **(Matt. 14)** by Herod and sat there day after day knowing that Herodias, Herod's new wife, was determined to have him killed, John began to doubt.



He sent some of his disciples to Jesus to ask if He really was The Messiah. **(Luke 7:18-23)**

That never made sense to me. Before you ever get to John doubting, you see that their mothers knew who each child was, you see John baptize Jesus and you see John declare plainly Who Jesus is. He had already baptized Jesus and declared Who He was to all the people. To now be asking if Jesus is The Messiah, The One all the Jews had been waiting on made no sense to me. Let's read what happened when John the Baptizer baptized Jesus.

John 1:29-33 - The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, Which (Who) taketh away the sin of the world. This is He of whom I said, After me cometh a man which is preferred before me: for He was before me. And I knew Him not (I myself did not know Him): but that He should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water. And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon Him. And I knew Him not (I did not know He was The One): but He (God the Father) Who sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me,

Upon Whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, the same is He Which (Who) baptizeth with the Holy Ghost. And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God.

New Living Translation

He is the one I was talking about when I said, 'A man is coming after me who is far greater than I am, for He existed long before me.'

So John is now in doubt about Jesus, because he's sitting in prison day after day and has a pretty good idea that death awaits him. He's wondering why he's still in prison. He has baptized Jesus, The Messiah and all his life he has done the will of God. So why is this happening to him? If Jesus is The Son of God and John serves God whole heartedly why isn't his situation changing, why isn't he being set free? Why doesn't Jesus do something? He's God's chosen One, The One the Jewish people have waited for.

When John sent his disciples to Jesus to double check if He really was The Messiah, Jesus was performing some miracles. He told John's disciples, go tell John what you've seen, the blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear and the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached. **(Luke 7:20-23)** John knew Jesus was doing miracles already, before He was imprisoned. He had already been losing his disciples and had said that Jesus must increase and he must decrease. **(John 3:30)** But doubt was setting in because of his circumstance.

After Jesus told John's disciples to share about the miracles He was doing He said something peculiar.

Luke 7:23 – And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in Me.

The King James didn't do us any favors there with how this is translated. Lets look at the NIV and The New Living Translation to see if we can get hold of what is really being said here.

◀ Luke 7:23 |

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[New International Version](#)

Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.”

[New Living Translation](#)

And he added, “God blesses those who do not fall away because of me.”

So now we can see that Jesus is addressing John’s doubt here. He knew John was beginning to doubt and expected Jesus to do something. But Jesus responded that the one who keeps the faith no matter what, no matter if things don’t turn out the way they hoped they would, no matter if things don’t go your way – that’s the one who will be blessed. The real blessing lies in the fact that they will keep the faith and no matter what happens to them on this Earth in this life, it means they will be with God for all of eternity. We have to not fall away when things don’t go our way, when the answer doesn’t come fast enough, when the answer isn’t what we wanted, or God doesn’t seem to move favorably on our behalf. If we will keep the faith and not get angry at Jesus or disappointed in Him and not walk away from Him then the Bible says that God has amazing things that we cannot even imagine in store for us! **(1 Cor.2:9)**

John had heard the voice of God speak to him about Who Jesus was and when something went wrong doubt set in. Look how easy it is for our faith to be shaken. John the baptizer was a strong man of God, look at what Jesus said about him **(Matt.11:11)** and yet he began to doubt. If it can happen to him, it can happen to us.

God put Job through one of the hardest tests I know of and in the end, he was doubly blessed by God. He lost his children, he lost his health, he lost his riches. But he kept the faith and God blessed him in the end.

It's easy for us to follow Jesus as long as He is doing what we want. No faith is required when everything always goes your way. But when our prayers aren't answered the way we want and things aren't going our way, then true faith is required. That's when we WILL be blessed. What if God is testing you and He's proud of you just like He was proud of Job and proud of John the Baptist and you throw in the towel? Don't give up on God. He's there. We will be tested now in this life. **(1 Cor.10:13, 1 Peter 1:7)** Stand firm. Keep the faith and God's blessing will come. And even if you don't see it in this life, it will be in eternity.

Think about little children who are raised in luciferic homes. They are traumatized and sodomized, raped and molested over and over again. Taught to call out to Jesus and yet Jesus does not come and rescue them. This makes it very hard for them to be saved, to trust The Real Jesus and the luciferians know this. Those children then have a wrong idea of who Jesus really is because He did not come when they called on Him. He did not instantly stop the bad things that were happening. And most people get tripped up with that. Most people are offended right there. Why didn't You come? Why didn't You help? Why didn't You make it all better? It is the same with targeted individuals, they are asking the same questions.

Those questions are the same as "Why do bad things happen to good people?" Here's the answer, God gave us free will. God does not make anyone behave. He does not intervene every time someone decides to do evil and wicked things. This world is our testing ground, where we choose who we will serve. God does not make us serve Him or choose Him. Now, in this life - here on this Earth, is the time we make the decision of where we will spend eternity.

We do suffer in this world and some have suffered so much more than others. I praise God for every MK Ultra survivor and every child raised in a luciferic home who really came to Jesus and has truly been saved. I praise God for targeted individuals who are truly saved and I don't know many. I praise God for the ones who endure and really make their way to Jesus despite the devil's best efforts to defeat them. Jesus does love you. He is there waiting for you to come to Him. He will help you through this life but it might not always go your way and your life

might not look like what you thought it would. That's where you just trust Him to make it what He wants it to be. And as I always say, whatever you face and go through in this life, if you are in Jesus' hands then it will be for God's glory.

CLOSING

I met a young woman at the grocery store once. She was bagging my groceries and she was talking a lot. I'm sure I mentioned Jesus to her and she let me know that she did not want to have anything to do with Him because her parents were killed in a car crash. I did not have time to speak to her since she was at work. She was bitter and angry at God for taking her parents. Have you ever noticed that everything gets blamed on God? Everything. What if her parents were saved? Then they are in heaven but since she's angry at God, then she won't see them again unless her heart changes toward Jesus. Don't cut yourself off from an eternity of blessing and peace just because something doesn't go your way in this life or you go through hard things. God's testing is never easy. Why do we think this life is supposed to be a cake walk, the Bible doesn't say that at all.

Can you endure and persevere to the end? Or will you be offended in Jesus and fall away?

PRAYER