

Psalm 66:18, “If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me.”

Nothing is more frustrating for a parent than when a child refuses to listen. If they would only listen, we could give them the advice they need to keep out of trouble or away from danger. But their pride and rebellion causes them to tune us out. Our hearts become heavy and many a tear is shed simply because they refuse to listen.



Isaiah 59:1-2, “Behold, the LORD’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.”

Have you ever wondered how God must feel when we refuse to listen to Him? He is pleading with us to let go of the sin that is holding us back and seek His forgiveness. But yet, we say NO or come up with all sorts of excuses why we cannot let it go.

Galatians 2:20-21, “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.”

Proverbs 19:2-3, “Also, that the soul be without knowledge, it is not good; and he that hasteth with his feet sinneth. The foolishness of man perverteth his way: and his heart fretteth against the LORD.”

When we refuse to let go of our sin and accept excuses as valid reasons why we cannot let it go, then we frustrate the LORD. Then the worst thing possible happens to that Christian, God turns a deaf ear to their prayers.

It is a dangerous position to be in when you need God to answer a desperate prayer, yet your sins prevents Him from answering that prayer. Answering your prayer while you refuse to let go of your sin puts God in the position of condoning your willful sin. This He cannot do. If God does not answer your prayers due to sin, there is no one to blame but yourself and you must pay the consequences. This painful situation may have to occur before you break your rebellion and let go.

We have all heard many a story of a wayward Christian who lost their jobs, their family, their friends, their homes and worldly possessions until they finally came to the conclusion that holding onto their sin was not worth losing the ear of God!



Jonah 2:1-6, "Then Jonah prayed unto the LORD his God out of the fish's belly, And said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the LORD, and he heard me; out of the belly of hell cried I, and thou heardest my voice. For thou hadst cast me into the deep, in the midst of the seas; and the floods compassed me about: all thy billows and they waves passed over me. Then I said, I am cast out of thy sight; yet I will look again toward thy holy temple. The waters compassed me about, even to the soul: the depth closed me round about, the weeds were wrapped about my head. I went down to the bottoms of the mountains; the earth with her bars was about me for ever: yet hast thou brought up my life from corruption, O LORD my God."

Next time you think about holding onto a sin, think about Jonah and his time spent in the belly of the whale. It was dark. The whale's stomach acid was burning his skin. His arms and legs cramped from constantly swimming in the fluids to keep from drowning. The smell was atrocious and seaweed strangled his body. He hungered and thirsted, yet through it all for three days refused to let go of his sin. His rebellious hard heart had to be broken before he could return to sweet fellowship with God.

Breaking our spirit is God's compassion on us to get us in a right place with Him so He can answer our prayers. Are you holding onto sin? Either the sin will break you or you will break the sin.

The devil will provide you with lots of reasons to hold onto that sin. His motive is simple. He wants you to self-destruct. His hope is that when God is forced to break you, you hold out and never let the sin go.