

WHY DO WE BECOME BITTER AND RETALIATE?

6/21/2020

10th message: **When God is not Seen**

Text: Esther 1 & 5

Theme: The fundamental issues of being offended.

Bitterness, resentment and retaliation

Bitterness – no one wants it, but we allow it

Retaliation – what we plan to do to get even

I. Offences will come into your life

Luke 17:1 Then said he unto the disciples, It is impossible but that **offences** will come **3** Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother **trespass** against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him. **4** And if he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him.

The Lord said, "I will judge... you must forgive"

Let's consider two illustrations: Ahasuerus in Esther 1:10-22 and Haman in Esther 5:9-14

II. Offences can come out of your life

The flesh's fundamental failures:

To make the offence seem bigger than it is

To respond in the flesh is often our first consideration

To attack the person and not the problem

To seek retaliation and not restoration or to resolve the issue

Exaggerate the problem through "what if" thinking

III. Your sinful responses must be surrendered