



GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday Evening Sermon

February 5, 2017 (by Ray Reynolds)

"The Worldly Approach to Conflict"

Introduction: There is a vast difference between the way the world views conflict and the way Christians should view conflict. Today we are going to consider the worldly approach to conflict. What do they do? Why is it deadly? What can we learn? Let's study together...

Discussion:

I. WHEN THERE IS CONFLICT... THE WORLD PREFERS RESENTMENT

- Eliphaz and Elihu (**Job 1:5-7, 36:13**)
- Jeremiah (**Jeremiah 11:18-23**)
- The Fool (**Proverbs 27:2**)
- Those Disciplined by God (**Proverbs 3:11-12**)
- Herodias (**Mark 6:18, Luke 3**)
- Envious People (**Romans 13:13, I Peter 2:1**)
- Selfish People (**James 3:14-16**)

II. WHEN THERE IS CONFLICT... THE WORLD PREFERS REVENGE

- Lamech's Friends (**Genesis 4**)
- The Brothers of Joseph (**Genesis 37**)
- A Wicked Neighbor (**Leviticus 19:18**)
- The Avenger (**Joshua 20**)
- The Enemies of Saul (**I Samuel 14**)
- Joab (**II Samuel 3**)
- Jezebel (**I Kings 18**)
- Those Full of Hatred (**Proverbs 10:19**)
- Jeremiah's Enemies (**Jeremiah 20:10**)
- The Philistines (**Ezekiel 25:25-17**)
- The Cities of Tyre and Sidon (**Joel 3:4**)

Conclusion: It is true that God used His people in the Old Testament to execute His vengeance, but remember that was in the Old Testament. Hundreds of Bible stories show the negative effects of resentment and revenge. The Lord will take care of our enemies (**Nahum 1:2, Matthew 5:38-45**). The goal of a Christian is to seek compassion. Remember you will reap what you sow (**Galatians 6:7**). What would you rather reap: Forgiveness or Blame? Peace or Revenge? Love or Resentment? The choice is yours.