

No Longer A Hostage To My Past (Part 1)



Pain from the past can shape everything in our lives. It shapes our emotions, it directs our desires, it affects to whom we are attracted, it can control our ability to make money, and it can influence our view of the world, whether negative or positive. It significantly impacts our self-esteem , and it is what makes a person overly sensitive or extremely harsh. It creates the vulnerability for addictions. Most people are still living in the shadows of the past. They are hostages literally controlled by “ sniper thoughts.” But rest assured. God has ordered a change today which will affect the rest of our lives.

I. A choice must be made, as it is impossible to move toward your future and keep your eyes glaring on the past.

Philippians 3:13, 14

13 - Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead,

14 - I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

II. Even when some see the devastation in their past, their habits, behaviors and emotions are so attached to yesterday that they won't break away.

Luke 17:32&33 (MSG)

32 - Remember what happened to Lot's wife!

33 - If you grasp and cling to life on your terms, you'll lose it, but if you let that life go, you'll get life on God's terms.

Genesis 19:24-26

24 - Then the Lord rained down burning sulfur on Sodom and Gomorrah—from the Lord out of the heavens.

25 - Thus he overthrew those cities and the entire plain, destroying all those living in the cities—and also the vegetation in the land.

26 - But Lot's wife looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

III. The Plain Truth: Whatever we are rehearsing in our mind is going to be played out in our future.

Isaiah 43:18,19 (NIV)

18 - “Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.

19 - See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

Isaiah 46:9

9 - Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me,

My experience with Christ:

Revelation 21:4

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.

