

Proverbs: Covering and Confronting Sin Message

When experiencing an offense, examine your mindset then give grace to the offender

Proverbs: Confessing Sin and Being Forgiven

- I. Examine and adjust your mindset
 - A. Examine how you perceive yourself
 - B. Examine how you perceive others
- II. Give the appropriate grace to restore the relationship
 - A. Cover sin
 - B. Confront sin

Are you a hothead? (Prov 19:19)

"The hothead is characterized by a heated excitement of resentment against a perceived offender"

(Bruce Waltke, *Proverbs*, II:113)

Are you easily offended? (Prov 12:16)

"Anger" = being "vexed, excited, upset"; emotions reside on the surface

"At once" = lack of self-control; overly sensitive, easily provoked, (see 1 Cor 13:5)

Prov 25:28 and 29:11

5 P's of being easily offended

Do you have a problem with:

- Pettiness (too sensitive)
- Patience (lack of)
- Pride
- Pugnacious
- Punitive (legalistic)

Hatred stirs up strife (Prov 10:12)

"Hatred" = revulsion toward the person who wronged you

"Stirs up" = lit., "awakens"

"Strife" = comes from the verb "to act as a judge"

Covering in love (Prov 10:12)

The loving person "cherishes the wrongdoer as a friend to be won, not as an enemy with whom to get even" (Bruce Waltke, *Proverbs*, I:461)

"Cover" = render something invisible (Waltke)

"All" = all kinds of transgressions or offenses

To cover is to treat the offender as if the offense had never happened

Covering in love (Prov 10:12)

NT quotes Prov 10:12 in Jas 5:20; 1 Pet 4:8

Also see Proverbs 17:9 and 19:11

"Overlook" = used in 4:15 for passing by the way of evil

"Honor" = crown of beauty as in 4:9; reflects God's beauty (Ps 96:6)

When to cover, when to confront?

If at all possible, cover it!

If you need to confront it:

- Select the best time to do so using self-control and wisdom
- Must be constructive, to build up the other person
- It's for their good, not your revenge!