

Relational Movement	Fight Response	Flight Response
Attack 	Anger 	Fear 
Abandonment 	Jealousy	Despair
Love 	Contempt	Shame

Your dark emotions are much more than just uncomfortable feelings you struggle to control. They are windows into your heart. These emotions—the ones you tend to deny and hide—actually have something to tell you. They can reveal, in a very graphic way, where you are in your relationship with God. So often you find yourself caught between extremes—either you feel too much or not at all. You tend to ignore your feelings or fight them off as if they were an enemy. But all emotion—whether positive or negative—can give you a glimpse of the true nature of God; bring awareness to your cry for help and your need for God himself.

Highland Colony Men's Roundtable
www.MensTable.com

GROWING IN AWARENESS: 6 EMOTIONAL DEFENSES TO THREAT

LOVE: Holy Contempt – The Mockery of Evil

Summary: A Man understands that God provides a model and a means to deal with evil

Bible Verses: Psalm 2:1-6, Psalm 37:12,13, Jeremiah 48:25-33, Nahum 3:5-7, Psalm 22:7-8, Matthew 27:27-44, I Peter 2:23,24

Music: Lauren Daigle – How Can It Be

Video: The Passion of the Christ - Crucifixion of Christ

Resources: *The Cry of the Soul* by Dr. Dan Allender & Dr. Tremper Longman III

July 28, 2016

RESPONSE TO LOVE GONE BAD: The Model of God.

1. _____ > God is a mocker. He laughs with scorn at the obstinate folly of the arrogant. He ridicules with mockery and curses.
2. _____ > You must learn to mock with God's perspective, boast in weakness, and taunt death and suffering with the confident laughter of trust.
3. _____ > God mocks a nation: once a proud nation, Moab will become an object of disgust and ridicule (Jeremiah 48:25-33). God is depicted as making Moab (a country near the Dead Sea in continual conflict with Israel) wallow in its byproduct of sin (vomit).
4. _____ > God humiliates – His laughter stings, His ridicule pierces, but His humiliation crushes pride (Nahum 3:5-7). Three considerations:
 1. _____ exposes the crime > God exposes the horror of Nineveh's sin.
 2. _____ is poetic justice > God pelts her with filth (dung). Poetic vengeance matches the meter of sin with the rhythm of shame.
 3. _____ provokes horror > Repent or be consumed by God's burning rage.

RESPONSE TO LOVE GONE BAD: God's Mockery of God!

1. _____ > All the contempt that should be directed against your sin, God hurled at the glorious Son. Horror opens the door to wonder—the invitation to worship.
2. _____ > God is willing to bear the mockery and shame that moves you to the wonder that evokes worship (Psalm 22:7-8). Jesus quietly bore the contempt of His creation—He seemed to draw it forth by refusing to defend His person and prove His calling (Matthew 27:27-44; I Peter 2:23).
3. _____ > The foolishness of contempt unleashed compels you to work harder to save face, which in turns spurs further contempt. But no matter how intensely you mock, you will never get what you need, what only humble repentance can gain: GRACE. You need forgiveness and you need to offer forgiveness.

RESPONSE TO LOVE GONE BAD: Mock Like God!

1. _____! How could God, the Father curse His Son? How could the perfect, beautiful, pure Son be assaulted with the vile content of your soul? How could He take your place—how could He bear you sin?
2. _____ > In a mysterious instant, the Father who loved the Son from all eternity turned from Him in hatred (Galatians 3:13; I Peter 2:24)?
3. _____ > No matter how hard your heart becomes or how far you flee, the Father's response at your return is not cold, cruel, cutting eyes, but the open arms of One who knows joy, not contempt, toward you.

RESPONSE TO LOVE GONE BAD: Trust God & Embrace Weakness.

1. _____ > The Evil One uses death and suffering to force the question, "Can you trust God who lets you and your loved ones suffer and die?" The Evil One thrusts sorrow in your face and claims: "You are alone. No God exists—and if by chance He does, then He is impersonal and a brute. The laughter of trust mocks evil. Those who weep will one day laugh, and the laughter of glory can be borrowed today to keep hope alive in the face of pain and death.
2. _____ > Evil offers strength, but it leads to death. God offers weakness, and it opens the door to life. God's strength shows itself most profoundly not in your proficiency at making life work, but in your weakness. His glory is made known not through what appears glorious, but through the base, the lowly, the humble (II Corinthians 12:9-10).
3. _____ > God uses tragedy—the unexpected reversal of hope and humility—to bring about repentant brokenness and redeemed hunger. God uses weakness and foolishness to shame the strong and the wise.

ACTION: Journal This!

1. What are the 3 greatest illustrations of evil in the world today?
2. What are the 3 greatest illustrations of evil, failure, or hurt to others in your life?
3. Where is God in the midst of the chaos in the world and in you?

Bible Verses

Psalm 2:1-6

Why the big noise, nations? Why the mean plots, peoples? Earth-leaders push for position, Demagogues and delegates meet for summit talks, The God-deniers, the Messiah-defiers: "Let's get free of God! Cast loose from Messiah!" Heaven-throned God breaks out laughing. At first he's amused at their presumption; Then he gets good and angry. Furiously, he shuts them up: "Don't you know there's a King in Zion? A coronation banquet is spread for him on the holy summit."

Psalm 37:12,13

Bad guys have it in for the good guys, obsessed with doing them in. But God isn't losing any sleep; to him they're a joke with no punch line.

Jeremiah 48:25-33

"Moab's link to power is severed. Moab's arm is broken." God's Decree. The Sheer Nothingness of Moab "Turn Moab into a drunken sot, drunk on the wine of my wrath, a dung-faced drunk, filling the country with vomit - Moab a falling-down drunk, a joke in bad taste. Wasn't it you, Moab, who made crude jokes over Israel? And when they were caught in bad company, didn't you cluck and gossip and snicker? "Leave town! Leave! Look for a home in the cliffs, you who grew up in Moab. Try living like a dove who nests high in the river gorge. "We've all heard of Moab's pride, that legendary pride, The strutting, bullying, puffed-up pride, the insufferable arrogance. I know" - God's Decree - "his rooster-crowing pride, the inflated claims, the sheer nothingness of Moab. But I will weep for Moab, yes, I will mourn for the people of Moab. I will even mourn for the people of Kir-heres. I'll weep for the grapevines of Sibmah and join Jazer in her weeping - Grapevines that once reached the Dead Sea with tendrils as far as Jazer. Your summer fruit and your bursting grapes will be looted by brutal plunderers, Lush Moab stripped of song and laughter. And yes, I'll shut down the winepresses, stop all the shouts and hurrahs of harvest.

Nahum 3:5-7

"I'm your enemy, Whore Nineveh - I, God-of-the-Angel-Armies! I'll strip you of your seductive silk robes and expose you on the world stage. I'll let the nations get their fill of the ugly truth of who you really are and have been all along. I'll pelt you with dog dung and place you on a pedestal: 'Slut on Exhibit.' Everyone who sees you will gag and say, 'Nineveh's a pigsty: What on earth did we ever see in her? Who would give her a second look? Ugh!' Past the Point of No Return

Psalm 22:7-8

Everyone pokes fun at me; they make faces at me, they shake their heads: "Let's see how God handles this one; since God likes him so much, let him help him!"

Matthew 27:27-44

The soldiers assigned to the governor took Jesus into the governor's palace and got the entire brigade together for some fun. They stripped him and dressed him in a red toga. They plaited a crown from branches of a thorn bush and set it on his head. They put a stick in his right hand for a scepter. Then they knelt before him in mocking reverence: "Bravo, King of the Jews!" they said. "Bravo!" Then they spit on him and hit him on the head with the stick. When they had had their fun, they took off the toga and put his own clothes back on him. Then they proceeded out to the crucifixion. Along the way they came on a man from Cyrene named Simon and made him carry Jesus' cross. Arriving at Golgotha, the place they call "Skull Hill," they offered him a mild painkiller (a mixture of wine and myrrh), but when he tasted it he wouldn't drink it. After they had finished nailing him to the cross and were waiting for him to die, they whiled away the time by throwing dice for his clothes. Above his head they had posted the criminal charge against him: THIS IS JESUS, THE KING OF THE JEWS. Along with him, they also crucified two criminals, one to his right, the other to his left. People passing along the road jeered, shaking their heads in mock lament: "You bragged that you could tear down the Temple and then rebuild it in three days - so show us your stuff! Save yourself! If you're really God's Son, come down from that cross!" The high priests, along with the religion scholars and leaders, were right there mixing it up with the rest of them, having a great time poking fun at him: "He saved others - he can't save himself! King of Israel, is he? Then let him get down from that cross. We'll all become believers then! He was so sure of God - well, let him rescue his 'Son' now - if he wants him! He did claim to be God's Son, didn't he?" Even the two criminals crucified next to him joined in the mockery.

1 Peter 2:23,24

They called him every name in the book and he said nothing back. He suffered in silence, content to let God set things right. He used his servant body to carry our sins to the Cross so we could be rid of sin, free to live the right way. His wounds became your healing.

How Can It Be – Lauren Daigle

I am guilty
Ashamed of what I've done,
what I've become
These hands are dirty
I dare not lift them up to the
Holy one

You plead my cause
You right my wrongs
You break my chains
You overcome
You gave Your life
To give me mine
You say that I am free
How can it be
How can it be

I've been hiding
Afraid I've let you down, inside I
doubt
That You still love me
But in Your eyes there's only
grace now

You plead my cause
You right my wrongs
You break my chains
You overcome
You gave Your life
To give me mine
You say that I am free
How can it be
How can it be

Though I fall, You can make me
new
From this death I will rise with
You
Oh the grace reaching out for
me
How can it be
How can it be

You plead my cause
You right my wrongs
You break my chains
You overcome
You gave Your life
To give me mine
You say that I am free

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6 Emotional Defenses to Threat

Relational Movement

Attack → ←

Abandonment ↗

Love ←



Fight Response

Anger

Jealousy

Contempt



Flight Response

Fear

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Growing in Awareness Series: 6 Emotional Defenses to Threat

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LOVE

Holy Contempt – The Mockery of Evil!

Psalm 2:1-6; 37:12,13

RESPONSE TO LOVE GONE BAD: The Model of God.

1. **MOCKER** > God is a mocker. He laughs with scorn at the obstinate folly of the arrogant. He ridicules with mockery and curses.
2. **MOCK—WEAKNESS—TRUST** > You must learn to mock with God's perspective, boast in weakness, and taunt death and suffering with the confident laughter of trust.
3. **STORY** > God mocks a nation: once a proud nation, Moab will become an object of disgust and ridicule (Jeremiah 48:25-33). God is depicted as making Moab (a country near the Dead Sea in continual conflict with Israel) wallow in its byproduct of sin (vomit).
4. **HUMILIATER** > God humiliates – His laughter stings, His ridicule pierces, but His humiliation crushes pride (Nahum 3:5-7). Three considerations:
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RESPONSE TO LOVE GONE BAD: God's Mockery of God!

1. **WONDER** > All the contempt that should be directed against your sin, God hurled at the glorious Son. Horror opens the door to wonder—the invitation to worship.
2. **JESUS** > God is willing to bear the mockery and shame that moves you to the wonder that evokes worship (Psalm 22:7-8). Jesus quietly bore the contempt of His creation—He seemed to draw it forth by refusing to defend His person and prove His calling (Matthew 27:27-44; 1 Peter 2:23).
3. **SURRENDER** > The foolishness of contempt unleashed compels you to work harder to save face, which in turn spurs further contempt. But no matter how intensely you mock, you will never get what you need, what only humble repentance can gain: GRACE. You need forgiveness and you need to offer forgiveness.

RESPONSE TO LOVE GONE BAD: Mock Like God!

1. **HOW CAN IT BE!** How could God, the Father curse His Son? How could the perfect, beautiful, pure Son be assaulted with the vile content of your soul? How could He take your place—how could He bear you sin?
2. **MYSTERY** > In a mysterious instant, the Father who loved the Son from all eternity turned from Him in hatred (Galatians 3:13; 1 Peter 2:24)?
3. **FATHER'S RESPONSE** > No matter how hard your heart becomes or how far you flee, the Father's response at your return is not cold, cruel, cutting eyes, but the open arms of One who knows joy, not contempt, toward you.

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1. **LIES OF THE ENEMY** > The Evil One uses death and suffering to force the question, “Can you trust God who lets you and your loved ones suffer and die?” The Evil One thrusts sorrow in your face and claims: “You are alone. No God exists—and if by chance He does, then He is impersonal and a brute. The laughter of trust mocks evil. Those who weep will one day laugh, and the laughter of glory can be borrowed today to keep hope alive in the face of pain and death.
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