

Offense

***** Remember: What offends us, reveals us.

Offense in the Greek > word picture

a. Monkey holding onto a trap stick (Explain)

b. (G4624 - skandalon) - Offence

"("scandal;" probably from a derivative of [2578](#); a trap-stick (bent sapling), i.e. snare (figuratively, cause of displeasure or sin):-- occasion to fall (of stumbling), offence, thing that offends, stumbling block."

c. Webster: Offence

: something that causes a person to be hurt, angry, or upset
: something that is wrong or improper
: a criminal act

Synonym discussion: [offense](#) [sin](#) [vice](#) [crime](#) [scandal](#)

Webster: Scandal

: an occurrence in which people are shocked and upset because of behavior that is morally or legally wrong
: talk about the shocking or immoral things that people have done or are believed to have done
: something that is shocking, upsetting, or unacceptable

Origin: Middle English, from Late Latin scandalum stumbling block, offense, from Greek skandalon trap, stumbling block, offense.

***** To remain Offended, is to be in Unforgiveness.

Matthew 18:1-10 (KJV)

[18:1] At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?

[2] And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them,

[3] And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

[4] Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

[5] And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me.

[6] But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.

[7] ¶ Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh!

[8] Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast them from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire.

[9] And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire.

[10] Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.

- Cutting or gouging does not stop the sin. (its a heart issue)

(Jesus is not advocating self-mutilation, but he is trying to emphasize the seriousness of the problem)

Matthew 16:23 (KJV)

[23] But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.

Matthew 16:23 (NIV)

[23] Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men."

Matthew 16:23 (AMP)

[23] But Jesus turned away from Peter and said to him, Get behind Me, Satan! You are in My way [an offense and a hindrance and a snare to Me]; for you are minding what partakes not of the nature and quality of God, but of men.

Luke 17:1-4 (KJV)

[17:1] Then said he unto the disciples, It is impossible but that offences will come: but woe unto him, through whom they come!

[2] It were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he cast into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones.

[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.

Romans 5:20 (KJV)

[20] Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:

Romans 9:30-33 (KJV)

[30] What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which followed not after righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith.

[31] But Israel, which followed after the law of righteousness, hath not attained to the law of righteousness.

[32] Wherefore? Because they sought it not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumblingstone;

[33] As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

1 Corinthians 8:7-13 (KJV)

[7] Howbeit there is not in every man that knowledge: for some with conscience of the idol unto this hour eat it as a thing offered unto an idol; and their conscience being weak is defiled.

[8] But meat commendeth us not to God: for neither, if we eat, are we the better;

neither, if we eat not, are we the worse.

[9] But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumblingblock to them that are weak.

[10] For if any man see thee which hast knowledge sit at meat in the idol's temple, shall not the conscience of him which is weak be emboldened to eat those things which are offered to idols;

[11] And through thy knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died?

[12] But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ.

[13] Wherefore, if meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend.

1 Corinthians 8:7-13 (NIV)

[7] But not everyone knows this. Some people are still so accustomed to idols that when they eat such food they think of it as having been sacrificed to an idol, and since their conscience is weak, it is defiled. [8] But food does not bring us near to God; we are no worse if we do not eat, and no better if we do.

[9] Be careful, however, that the exercise of your freedom does not become a stumbling block to the weak. [10] For if anyone with a weak conscience sees you who have this knowledge eating in an idol's temple, won't he be emboldened to eat what has been sacrificed to idols? [11] So this weak brother, for whom Christ died, is destroyed by your knowledge. [12] When you sin against your brothers in this way and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ.

[13] Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother to fall into sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause him to fall.

Romans 14:19-23 (KJV)

[19] Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.

[20] For meat destroy not the work of God. All things indeed are pure; but it is evil for that man who eateth with offence.

[21] It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak.

[22] Hast thou faith? have it to thyself before God. Happy is he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth.

[23] And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.

Romans 14:19-23 (NIV)

[19] Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification. [20] Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All food is clean, but it is wrong for a man to eat anything that causes someone else to stumble. [21] It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything else that will cause your brother to fall. [22] So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the man who does not condemn himself by what he approves. [23] But the man who has doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and everything that does not come from faith is sin.

Matthew 13:21 (KJV)

[21] Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.

Matthew 13:41-42 (KJV)

**[41] The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity;
[42] And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.**

Matthew 13:55-58 (KJV)

[55] Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas?

[56] And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then hath this man all these things?

[57] And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house.

[58] And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.

Matthew 17:27 (KJV)

[27] Notwithstanding, lest we should offend them, go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money: that take, and give unto them for me and thee.

Luke 7:20-24 (KJV)

[20] When the men were come unto him, they said, John Baptist hath sent us unto thee, saying, Art thou he that should come? or look we for another?

[21] And in that same hour he cured many of their infirmities and plagues, and of evil spirits; and unto many that were blind he gave sight.

[22] Then Jesus answering said unto them, Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached.

[23] And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.

[24] ¶ And when the messengers of John were departed, he began to speak unto the people concerning John, What went ye out into the wilderness for to see? A reed shaken with the wind?

John 16:1 (KJV)

[16:1] These things have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be offended. (Jn 15:17-27)

Conclusion:

1) Go back to Definitions and APPLY.

- Offence is an 'us' problem.

2) What do we do?

- Like Jesus > don't pick it up
- If you have..... > forgive and let it go
- Offenses cripple us, they don't punish the other person.
- Guard against 2nd and 3rd person offenses.

How Do We Know if We're Offended?

These were taken from the responses given at the Prayer Meeting on 4/14/2024.

- 1) I begin thinking negatively about the individuals I'm offended with.
- 2) I lose trust in them.
- 3) I push the person away and distance myself from the relationship. There's a break that happens in the relationship.
- 4) An attitude develops with the person because I feel like they're trying to show me up, or one up me.
- 5) Because of hurt, I can't pray for them like I pray for myself / my family?
- 6) Hanging on to something that someone did to me, and I begin fighting negative thoughts and feelings toward the person.
- 7) I feel like someone has put me down, and I can't shake it.
- 8) I get hurt / feel hurt by something someone has said / done. Then if I don't deal with it, I know it can turn into an offense. (But it starts with a hurt)
- 9) When someone violates / does something against me, gut punches me, and I hang on to it, I want to get back at them makes me want to get revenge.
- 10) Something happens to me that is negative, I don't let it go and it begins mulling around in me, and I begin speaking negatively about them or wanting to get back at them. My imagination begins working on how I can defend myself, or what I'll do next time something like that happens.
- 11) I don't want to be around the person anymore. I have to force myself to be around them or be cordial to them.
- 12) Too many excuses for my behavior. It's not my fault, it's another person's fault. I have the right to act, do, feel like I am because it's the other person's fault. They did this to me.

Jesus: the Stone of Stumbling - The Rock of Offense.

A. Jesus: a stone of stumbling. (1 Peter 2:6-8)

(G3037) - "Stone"

"apparently a primary word; a stone (literally or figuratively):--(mill-, stumbling-)stone."

(G4350) - "Stumbling"

"from 4314 and 2875; to strike at, i.e. surge against (as water); specially, to stub on, i.e. trip up (literally or figuratively):--beat upon, dash, stumble (at)."

B. Jesus: the rock of offense. (1 Peter 2:6-8)

(G4073 - Petra) - "Rock".

"feminine of the same as 4074; a (mass of) rock (literally or figuratively):--rock."

(G4625) - "Offense".

"("scandal;" probably from a derivative of 2578; a trap-stick (bent sapling), i.e. snare (figuratively, cause of displeasure or sin):--occasion to fall (of stumbling), offence, thing that offends, stumblingblock."

Matthew 21:42-44 - We either fall on him to be broken.

Or - he falls on us and we're crushed / ground to powder)

******* Please notice this:**

We're not supposed to carry offense, but by design and commission, Jesus was sent to offend people. It's necessary for our salvation, and for our sanctification.

The following examples are the Gr. word: (G4625 - Skandalon: "Offense").

- Matthew 13:53-58 > people offended with Jesus**
- Matthew 15:1-14 > Pharisees offended with what Jesus said, and Jesus didn't seem too concerned. It was their issue.**

C. Yet, we're told not to offend. But Jesus offended, and still offends.

How do you reconcile that??

- Romans 14:21 > It's good to not eat, drink, or do anything that offends someone.**
- Matthew 17:27 > Pay taxes so we don't offend**
- Luke 17:2 > If we offend one of these little ones....**

D. Please note:

- James 3:2 > KJV uses the word 'offend', but it's a different Gr. word than the other places.**

(G4417) - In James 3:2

"a form of 4098; to trip, i.e. (figuratively) to err, sin, fail (of salvation):--fall, offend, stumble."

E. Side Thought:

- Matthew 16:23 > Satan was an offense to Jesus.

> Jesus recognized he could have become offended with Satan, so he told Satan to get behind him.

F. There is a HUGE Principle in the following verse concerning people being or not being offended with Jesus. Can you find it?

Romans 9:30-33 (AMP)

30What shall we say then? That Gentiles who did not follow after righteousness [who did not seek salvation by right relationship to God] have attained it by faith [a righteousness imputed by God, based on and produced by faith],

31Whereas Israel, though ever in pursuit of a law [for the securing] of righteousness (right standing with God), actually did not succeed in fulfilling the Law. [Isa 51:1.]

32For what reason? Because [they pursued it] not through faith, relying [instead] on the merit of their works [they did not depend on faith but on what they could do]. They have stumbled over the Stumbling Stone. [Isa 8:14; 28:16.]

33As it is written, Behold I am laying in Zion a Stone that will make men stumble, a Rock that will make them fall; but he who believes in Him [who adheres to, trusts in, and relies on Him] shall not be put to shame nor be disappointed in his expectations. [Isa 28:16.]