

## Conflict Resolution



### Brother Against Brother

In dealing with interpersonal relationships where men “identify the Conflict in order to determine the options available, and accomplish a sound, or healthful Resolution, it is essential that an individual is able to communicate their beliefs and opinions in order to secure a peaceful Resolution.” In order to build a solid foundation it is imperative that a standard be established. There are but two standards. Jesus said, when questioned by the chief priests and elders, “The baptism of John, whence was it? from heaven or from men?” Thus, two sources: from heaven, or from men. If from men, the standard will consist of doing what is right in one’s own eyes, therefore, it is subjective. If from heaven, it will consist of that which is according to the divine law, which “is holy, and the commandment holy, and righteous, and good” (Romans 7:12), and for man’s good always: thus, objective. From whence does your standard of right and wrong, or you moral code originate, from heaven, or from men? If the divine standard is rejected, there are but two sources: conscience, or the laws of the land. If conscience, the standard is subjective, if the laws of the land, objective.

In either case there will be no lasting Resolution without an accepted standard that is objective in nature.

In regard to daily living, What is a general ethical, and moral compass to live by? Jesus said, "All things therefore whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, even so do ye also unto them: for this is the law and the prophets" (Matthew 7:12).

One of the disciples of Jesus, Simon Peter, came to him in regard to offenses committed, saying, "Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? until seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times; but, Until seventy times seven."

Forgiveness applied: "Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, who would make a reckoning with his servants. And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, that owed him ten thousand talents. But forasmuch as he had not wherewith to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made. The servant therefore fell down and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. And the lord of that servant, being moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. But that servant went out, and found one of his fellow-servants, who owed him a hundred shillings: and he laid hold on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay what thou owest. So his fellow-servant fell down and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee. And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay that which was due. So when his fellow-servants saw what was done, they were exceeding sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done. Then his lord called him unto him, and saith to him, Thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou besoughtest me: shouldest not thou also have had mercy on thy fellow-servant, even as I had mercy on thee? And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due. So shall also my heavenly Father do unto you, if ye forgive not every one his brother from your hearts" (Matthew 18:21-35).

## General Conflicts and how to acquire a Resolution:

“And if thy brother sin against thee, go, show him his fault between thee and him alone: if he hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he hear thee not, take with thee one or two more, that at the mouth of two witnesses or three every word may be established. And if he refuse to hear them, tell it unto the church: and if he refuse to hear the church also, let him be unto thee as the Gentile and the publican” (Matthew 18:15–17).

“Ye have heard that it was said to them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: but I say unto you, that every one who is angry with his brother shall be in danger of the judgment; and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council; and whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of the hell of fire. If therefore thou art offering thy gift at the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath aught against thee, leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way, first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift. Agree with thine adversary quickly, while thou art with him in the way; lest haply the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison. Verily I say unto thee, thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou have paid the last farthing” (Matthew 5:23–26).

What Conflicts do you have in life? Whatever they may be, do not allow them to go un-resolved. The latter end may be worse than the first.