

***Violence Within the Home: Seeking God's Whole Counsel and Provision for Remedy***

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**Violence**

**1.** Behavior or treatment in which physical force is exerted for the purpose of causing damage or injury: the violence of the rioters.

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The biblical use of violence usually has the connotation of physical force or egregious misuse of power to cause damage, injury or injustice.

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**Begin with God's assessment of violence.**

- <sup>11</sup> Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence. <sup>12</sup> And God saw the earth, and behold, it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. <sup>13</sup> And God said to Noah, "I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence through them. Behold, I will destroy them with the earth."  
*Genesis 6:11-13 (ESV)*

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Begin with God's assessment of violence.

- <sup>5</sup> The LORD tests the righteous, but his soul hates the wicked and the one who loves violence. *Psalm 11:5 (ESV)*

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Begin with God's assessment of violence.

- <sup>31</sup> Do not envy a man of violence and do not choose any of his ways, <sup>32</sup> for the devious person is an abomination to the LORD, but the upright are in his confidence. *Proverbs 3:31-32 (ESV)*
- <sup>26</sup> He who does violence to his father and chases away his mother is a son who brings shame and reproach. *Proverbs 19:26 (ESV)*

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Begin with God's assessment of violence.

- <sup>17</sup> Then he said to me, "Have you seen this, O son of man? Is it too light a thing for the house of Judah to commit the abominations that they commit here, that they should fill the land with violence and provoke me still further to anger? Behold, they put the branch to their nose. <sup>18</sup> Therefore I will act in wrath. My eye will not spare, nor will I have pity. And though they cry in my ears with a loud voice, I will not hear them." *Ezekiel 8:17-18 (ESV) (See also Ezekiel 12:19; 45:9)*

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God delivers from violence those who call on Him.

- <sup>1</sup> And David spoke to the LORD the words of this song on the day when the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul. <sup>2</sup> He said, "The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, <sup>3</sup> my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold and my refuge, my savior; you save me from violence. <sup>4</sup> I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.

*2 Samuel 22:1-4 (ESV)*

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God delivers from violence those who call on Him.

- <sup>8</sup> Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings, <sup>9</sup> from the wicked who do me violence, my deadly enemies who surround me.

*Psalms 17:8-9 (ESV)*

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God delivers from violence those who call on Him.

- <sup>12</sup> For he delivers the needy when he calls, the poor and him who has no helper. <sup>13</sup> He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy. <sup>14</sup> From oppression and violence he redeems their life, and precious is their blood in his sight.

*Psalms 72:12-14 (ESV)*

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Never fall for the illusion that those who perpetrate violence are not held to account.

- Psalm 73

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An appropriate form of physical restraint may be necessary in dealing with an unrepentant violent person.

- <sup>4</sup> for he had often been bound with shackles and chains, *Mark 5:4a (ESV)*

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When the danger reaches the level of great bodily harm, a period of physical separation may be necessary.

- <sup>3</sup> He lived among the tombs. And no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain, <sup>4</sup> for he had often been bound with shackles and chains, but he wrenched the chains apart, and he broke the shackles in pieces. No one had the strength to subdue him. *Mark 5:3-4 (ESV)*

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Recognize that no physical intervention will be sufficient to bring about true transformation.

- <sup>4</sup> for he had often been bound with shackles and chains, but he wrenched the chains apart, and he broke the shackles in pieces. No one had the strength to subdue him. <sup>5</sup> Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always crying out and cutting himself with stones. *Mark 5:4-5 (ESV)*

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Take appropriate steps to deal with the person but engage the real enemy.

- <sup>2</sup> And when Jesus had stepped out of the boat, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit. *Mark 5:2 (ESV)*
- <sup>7</sup> And crying out with a loud voice, he said, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me." <sup>8</sup> For he was saying to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!" *Mark 5:7-8 (ESV)*

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Realize that true transformation only takes place through a real encounter with the Lord Jesus Christ.

- <sup>15</sup> And they came to Jesus and saw the demon-possessed man, the one who had had the legion, sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid. *Mark 5:15 (ESV)*

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True transformation is enduring.

- <sup>18</sup> As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed with demons begged him that he might be with him. <sup>19</sup> And he did not permit him but said to him, "Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you." <sup>20</sup> And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone marveled. *Mark 5:18-20 (ESV)*

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