

"How To Handle Internal Damage"

Matthew 23:27, 28 (NIV)

"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of the bones of the dead and everything unclean. In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness."

INTERNAL (*adjective*) – something existing, occurring, or found within or inside; interior

DAMAGE (*noun*) – injury or harm that reduces value or usefulness

What is **Internal Damage**?

- It is interior damage commonly caused by exterior blunt force trauma.

[*] Meaning it was something that **AFFLICTED** you on the outside but has **AFFECTED** you on the inside, which causes a drastic change in your life. **(2 Corinthians 12:6-10)**

External Damage is always easily identifiable and can be seen by the person injured and others (*i.e. cuts, bruises, wounds, blood, etc.*). But Internal Damage cannot be easily identifiable by the natural eye, but requires examination. **(2 Corinthians 13:5, 6)**

People of God, remember this. You **CAN FUNCTION** (*such as work in ministry, serve in the community, visit hospitals, speaks at conferences, volunteer in outreaches, etc.*) with internal damage. Why because you can just clean up the outside and leave the inside damaged. (**Matthew 23:15, 25**) **Extortion: to illegally take by using your office, title, or position / Excess: indulging beyond capacity** However, you **CANNOT BE FRUITFUL** (*impact to your potential*) with internal damage. (**Genesis 1:28; Matthew 13:37-39**)

INTERNAL DAMAGE cannot be covered up by an **EXTERNAL BANDAGE**. In other words, you can't keep patching the outside expecting it to fix what's wrong on the inside. (**Matthew 23:27, 28**)

So How Do I Handle Internal Damage? *The Concept of Being Shot*

- 1) **The Entry Wound** – deals with where it entered or where it came from. According to forensic science, the examiner must determine first the direction of the bullet and where it entered. It's the same in the spiritual. (**Galatians 5:7, 8**)
- 2) **The Bullet** – deals with what entered causing the damage and where it is lodged. According to forensic science, the examiner next must determine what got damaged and where the bullet ended up. (**Galatians 5:16-21; 1 John 2:16**)

- 3) **The Exit Wound** – deals with what it will take to heal.
According to forensic science, the examiner, after locating the bullet, must cut the area in order to remove the bullet and cover up the exit wound. (**2 Corinthians 1:6; Psalms 119:71**)