

Doctrine of Rebuke

1. According to *Strong's* dictionary, The Hebrew word for “rebuke” is *yakach* (yaw-kahh'); a primitive root; to be right (i.e. correct); reciprocal, to argue; causatively, to decide, justify or convict: -appoint, argue, chasten, convince, correct (-ion), daysman, dispute, judge, maintain, plead, reason (together), rebuke, reprove (-r), surely, in any wise.
2. The first usage of the word in *Scripture* is in a context that forbade the harboring of hatred in the heart towards a Jewish brother. Rather, a person was to admonish a neighbour, i.e., to tell him openly what they had against him, and reprove him for his conduct.
 - *Leviticus 19:17 Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart: thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbour, and not suffer sin upon him.*
3. God has promised to rebuke or correct his erring people.
 - *Deuteronomy 28:20 The Lord shall send upon thee cursing, vexation, and rebuke, in all that thou settest thine hand unto for to do, until thou be destroyed, and until thou perish quickly; because of the wickedness of thy doings, whereby thou hast forsaken me.*
4. The word rebuke is used in the sense of forbidding someone to do something. While looking after the interests of Ruth, Boaz told his workers not to rebuke her or forbid her from picking up extra grain.
 - *Ruth 2:16 And let fall also some of the handfuls of purpose for her, and leave them, that she may glean them, and rebuke her not.*
5. The ruler of a land that is spiritually sensitive can discern when the nation is under divine rebuke.
 - *2 Kings 19:3 And they said unto him, Thus saith Hezekiah, This day is a day of trouble, and of rebuke, and blasphemy: for the children are come to the birth, and there is not strength to bring forth.*
6. It is not wrong to invoke God's displeasure when exhorting others to be peaceable and honorable.
 - *1 Chronicles 12:17 And David went out to meet them, and answered and said unto them, If ye be come peaceably unto me to help me, mine heart shall be knit unto you: but if ye be come to betray me to mine enemies, seeing there is no wrong in mine hands, the God of our fathers look thereon, and rebuke it.*
7. David did not want the Lord to rebuke him in divine anger which suggests there is a rational component or rebuke and an emotional one.

- *Psalms 6:1 To the chief Musician on Neg'-i-noth upon Shem'-i-nith, A Psalm of David. 6 O Lord, rebuke me not in thine anger, neither chasten me in thy hot displeasure.*
- *Psalms 38:1 A Psalm of David, to bring to remembrance. 38 O Lord, rebuke me not in thy wrath: neither chasten me in thy hot displeasure.*

8. The word rebuke has been translated to convey the idea of causality.

- *Psalms 18:15 Then the channels of waters were seen, and the foundations of the world were discovered at thy rebuke [decision (command)], O Lord, at the blast of the breath of thy nostrils.*

9. Those that delight in war should be rebuked.

- *Psalms 68:30 Rebuke the company of spearmen, the multitude of the bulls, with the calves of the people, till every one submit himself with pieces of silver: scatter thou the people that delight in war.*

“It is well that war is so terrible. We should grow too fond of it.” Robert E. Lee

10. In His sovereignty God can rebuke the instruments of war.

- *Psalms 76:6 At thy rebuke, O God of Jacob, both the chariot and horse are cast into a dead sleep.*

11. Individuals perish at the rebuke of the Lord’s countenance.

- *Psalms 80:16 It is burned with fire, it is cut down: they perish at the rebuke of thy countenance.*
- *Psalms 104:7 At thy rebuke they fled; at the voice of thy thunder they hasted away.*

12. Some people are rebuked without profit, while others accept rebuke and are thankful.

- The Scorners. *Proverbs 9:8 Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee.*
- The Wise Person. *Proverbs 13:1 A wise son heareth his father's instruction: but a scorner heareth not rebuke.*

13. There is a gospel blessing in a properly administered rebuke.

- *Proverbs 24:25 But to them that rebuke him shall be delight, and a good blessing shall come upon them.*
14. Sometimes an open rebuke is a greater expression of love than silence.
- *Proverbs 27:5 Open rebuke is better than secret love.*
15. It is profitable to listen to the rebuke of a wise person.
- *Ecclesiastes 7:5 It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise, than for a man to hear the song of fools.*
16. The Messiah will be a Ruler that rebukes many people.
- *Isaiah 2:4 And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.*
17. Fear is instilled in the hearts of those whom the Lord rebukes.
- *Isaiah 17:13 The nations shall rush like the rushing of many waters: but God shall rebuke them, and they shall flee far off, and shall be chased as the chaff of the mountains before the wind, and like a rolling thing before the whirlwind.*
18. The time will come when the Lord will remove any divine rebuke of His people.
- *Isaiah 25:8 He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the Lord hath spoken it.*
19. The sovereignty of God over Satan is manifested in that the Lord can rebuke Satan, but Satan cannot rebuke the Lord.
- *Zechariah 3:2 And the Lord said unto Satan, The Lord rebuke thee, O Satan; even the Lord that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?*
 - *Matthew 16:22 Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee. 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.*
20. The Christian is instructed to rebuke a transgressing brother.

- *Luke 17:3 Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him.*

21. It is possible to be the object of an unworthy or false rebuke.

- *Luke 19:39 And some of the Pharisees from among the multitude said unto him, Master, rebuke thy disciples.*

22. The Christian is to live in such a way as not to need to be rebuked by the Lord.

- *Philippians 2:15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;*

23. Great respect is to be shown to the leadership of a church.

- *1 Timothy 5:1 Rebuke not an elder, but intreat him as a father; and the younger men as brethren;*

24. Church elders have a holy responsibility to maintain church morality and doctrinal purity.

- *1 Timothy 5:20 Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear.*

25. One of the grave responsibilities of an elder (pastor) is to rebuke doctrinal and moral error in the congregation.

- *2 Timothy 4:2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.*
- *Titus 1:13 This witness is true. Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith;*
- *Titus 2:15 These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.*

26. A proper biblical rebuke will not begin with self, but with the Lord.

- *Jude 9 Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.*

27. To be rebuked by God is to be loved by the Lord.

- *Revelation 3:19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.*