Proverbs 13:10 Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom.

The key word here is **ONLY BY PRIDE**, example: "You hurt my feelings, You told a lie about me, You make me mad."

These are not true statements because we ALL have a free will, one can choose to react to it, or we can choose to ignore it (Jesus did). Pride is the biggest downfall of not only Christians, but the secular world more so. The world teaches that it's all about **ME** - if it feels good do it.

Romans 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

The Bible teaches that we are to renew our minds once we know the Lord and put off all the old sinful nature. You say, how do we renew our minds. By: Reading & Studying & Believing the word of God, having Fellowship with other Christians, Talking to Jesus, Letting go of our CARNAL nature and rely on the spiritual nature (Holy Spirit). You know, Love, Joy, Peace, Longsuffering, Goodness, Gentleness, Faith, Meekness & Temperance. Gal 5:22

Ephesians 4:22 That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

Again the scripture tells us that as we are put under the water in baptism, We are dead and buried like as Christ, this to our old man, the fleshly and sinful nature. In other words we are a **Corpse** as far as sin and fleshly feelings are concerned.

Romans 6:4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Romans 6:2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

Romans 6:7 For he that is dead is freed from sin.

Romans 6:11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Ephesians 2:3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

If we believe the word of God that we are dead to sin and the old nature, in reality our old nature is a Corpse.

A corpse does not respond, you can kick it, spit on it, ridicule it and just plain abuse it. It will respond in no way, Jesus was a prime example when they accused and crucified him.

BUT let someone say or do the slightest thing to us, we are anything BUT a Corpse. We stew about it and the more we stew about it, the bigger and worse it gets. You say: "I can't help it, they tick me off." **My reply to that is you are not standing on and in the promises of God**. Did you ask and claim the peace of God that passes ALL understanding and KEEPS our hearts and MINDS through Christ Jesus. **Phil 4.7**

You see, we do get hurt, upset or want to get ticked off, but Christ made the way of escape for "us."

1Corinthians 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

How do we do this? By excepting his promise and acting upon it.

James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

In other words, when a negative thought comes to your mind, just rebuke it in Jesus Name and tell the thought or Satan to take a hike. These are thoughts of hurt or rejection, anger or retaliation, etc.

THEN

<u>1Peter 5:7</u> Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

Tell Jesus what the hurt or negative thought is and verbally give it to him, then claim his peace that passes all understanding to replace any negativity. This is, the way of escape recorded in 1*Cor* 10.13.

Don't complain if you choose not to do this simple process, just remember if we refuse to listen to the word of God or Godly instruction. This gives Satan a legal right to afflict you and afflict you he will.

You can say, you love the Lord with all your heart and if your fruits (attitudes, disposition or lifestyle) does not show Christ in you, you are in danger of getting the rebuke that Jesus gave in

Mt 7:21-23 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

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