

*For **I will be** to Ephraim **like a lion**, and **like a young lion** to the house of Judah. I myself will tear in pieces and go away. I will carry off, and there will be no one to deliver. **I will go and return to my place, until they acknowledge their offense, and seek my face.** In their affliction they will **seek me earnestly.**" (Hosea 5:14-15)*

*But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, **Satan! You are an offense to Me**, for you are **not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men.**" (Matthew 16:23 NKJV)*

*"**I have hope in God**, which they themselves also accept, that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust. "This being so, I myself always **strive to have a conscience without offense** toward God and men. (Acts 24:15-16 NKJV)*

***We give no offense in anything**, that our ministry may **not be blamed.** (2 Corinthians 6:3 NKJV)*

Let's turn to **how our offenses** strangely play into **God's remedy** for us to live **free of any offense**.

*Now it was not written for his sake alone that it was imputed to him, but also for us. It shall be imputed to **us who believe in Him** who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead, who **was delivered up because of our offenses**, and was raised because of our justification. (Romans 4:23-25 NKJV)*

*And the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the **judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation**, but the **free gift which came from many offenses resulted in justification.** (Romans 5:16 NKJV)*

Let's go back and explore this passage **more closely in context**. Pay attention to **how offense interacts** with **how God proposes to solve the issue of sin** in the universe, bringing it to its final extinction.

*Nevertheless **death reigned** from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of **Adam, who is a type of Him** who was to come.*

*But **the free gift is not like the offense.***

*For if **by the one man's offense many died**,
much more **the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many.***

*And **the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned.***

*For the **judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation**,
but the **free gift which came from many offenses resulted in justification.***

*For if **by the one man's offense death reigned** through the one,
much more **those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life** through the One, Jesus Christ.)*

*Therefore, as **through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation**,
even so **through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life.***

*For as **by one man's disobedience** many were **made sinners**,
so also **by one Man's obedience** many will be **made righteous**.*

*Moreover **the law entered that the offense might abound**.*

*But where sin abounded, **grace abounded much more**, (Romans 5:14-20 NKJV)*

*Do not **destroy the work of God** for the sake of food. All things indeed are pure, but **it is evil for the man who eats with offense**. (Romans 14:20 NKJV)*

***Give no offense**, either to the Jews or to the Greeks or to the church of God, just as I also **please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved**. (1 Corinthians 10:32-33 NKJV)*