

## Have You Ever Known Anyone Broken Beyond Repair?

You can see their attitude by their physical posture. Their jaw clenches, their body tenses, their eyes squeeze into a squint. If seated, they may actually stand. They will not listen to or accept what you say. They are braced for action...to reject.

- You might see such a reaction in a teen whose father is giving her a reprimand.
- You might see such a reaction in an employee whose boss is giving him strong correction regarding his performance.
- You might see such a reaction in a person who simply does not want to listen to instruction.

In the Bible this overall outward posture of rejection is sometimes referred to as a 'stiff neck' or a 'hardened neck.' Solomon has a something to say, a warning:

**A man who hardens his neck after much reproof  
Will suddenly be broken beyond remedy.**

**--Proverbs 29:1**

The person who receives correction over and over, but continually 'hardens his neck' is the person who rejects instruction, rejects correction, and rejects discipline. This person is elsewhere called a 'scoffer.' He is unteachable.



Ultimately, he will be broken, but still unteachable.

We must humble ourselves so that we can carry on a civil conversation with others when there is a disagreement. We must insure that we keep our hearts soft and able to receive instruction, and correction, and discipline.

The warning is to each of us. 'Harden your neck' too often and you will become the scoffer! And you will eventually be broken beyond repair.

Be wise, be humble.