

Forgiveness

Acts 5:31). Him hath God exalted with His right hand to be Prince and a Savior, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sin.”

Is one of the most widely misunderstood doctrine of Scripture’

It is not to be confused with human forgiveness which merely remits a penalty or charge.

Divine forgiveness, on the other hand, is one of the most complicated and costly undertakings, demanding complete satisfaction to meet the demands of God’s outraged holiness.

1. In the Old Testament “ the priest shall make atonement for them and it shall be forgiven them.” (Lev. 4:20).

However, The O. T. Sacrifices only had a typical significance and served as a

covering to aid ,(Deut. 21:8) (Gen. 50:17).from sin until the appointed time when God should deal finally with sin through the death of Christ.

However the offender received full forgiveness - (Rom. 3:25) (Acts 17:30).

For the believer who sins.

The great fundamental truth respecting the believer in relationship to his/her

sins is the fact that his/her salvation comprehends the forgiveness of all his/her

trespasses past, present, and future so far as condemnation is concerned (Rom.8:1) (Col:2:13).

Since Christ has vicariously borne all sin and since the believer standing in Christ is complete, he/she is perfected forever in Christ.

When a believer sins, he/she is subject to chastisement from the Father,

but never condemnation with the world. (1 Cor.11:31-32)

By confession the believer is “Forgiven” and restored to fellowship (1John1:9)

Sin unto death ;

Persistent or scandalous sin in the believer in face of Divine grace and his

perfect standing in Christ may eventuate in a sin resulting in physical death.

“ If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask and He shall give him life for them that sin not unto death,

There is a sin unto death -

Both (John 15:2) & (1Cor. 11:30) points out that God reserves the right to cut off the physical death of a believer who has ceased to be a worthy witness in the world.

Does not mean the person lost salvation - it signifies a more drastic chastisement to the end that a believer might not be condemned with the world . (1Cor. 11:31-32).

The Unpardonable sin.

This was a specific sin, possibly only during the earthly life of our Lord when He was ministering in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Under those unique conditions a person who attributed to Satan the power of the Holy Spirit, so visibly and openly manifested, was guilty of this particular sin.

For this reason there could be no forgiveness in the age then present or in the age immediately following (Matt. 12:22-23) (Mk.34:22-30).

Since no such conditions exist in this age, the unpardonable sin is now impossible. An unpardonable sin and the gospel of "whosoever will" cannot coexist.

As an Obligation Among men.

The believer who belongs to this age is exhorted to be kind unto other

believers, and unbelievers as well, tenderhearted, and forgiving to one another

as God "for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." (Eph. 4:32).

The basis of the plea for forgiveness is that one has been him/herself so graciously forgiven..

We Learn How To Forgive Like Jesus
"Father Forgive Them, for they know not what they do"

Mark (11:25-26)

"And when ye stand praying, forgive if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven, may forgive you your trespasses."

(26) But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

(Col.3:12-13). "Put on then God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience,

(13) Bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive."

(Matt. 6:14-15) " For if your forgive people their wrongdoing, your Heavenly Father will forgive you as well. But if you don't forgive people, Your Father will not forgive your wrongdoing."

(Luke 6:37). " forgive-and you shall be forgiven."

* Definitions:

Forgive = to excuse for a fault or offense.

Renounce anger or resentment against.!!!

Pardon = to release from punishment. To pass over (an offense) without punishment.

(Isa.55:7) [Pardon] "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thought: and let him return to the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon."

(Heb.10:17) "And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more."

(1 John 1:9) "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

In forgiving sins:

(Mark 2:5;10)

(Luke 5:20)

(Luke 7:47-48)

Quotes;

M.L.K. Jr. Said that; Forgiveness is not an occasional act; it is a permanent attitude.

"Forgiveness does not mean ignoring what has been done or putting a false label on an evil act. It means, rather, that the evil act no longer remains as a barrier to the relationship."

"He who is devoid of the power to forgive is devoid of the power to love."

(Read John 15:9-19)

"Forgiveness is a catalyst creating the atmosphere necessary for a fresh start and new beginning."

It is the Lifting of a burden or a canceling of a debt.

MLKL Jr, "We can never say "I will forgive you, but I won't have anything further to do with you."

"Forgiveness - cannot change the past, but can change the future."

(John 1:12-13) "Yet all who did receive Him, to those who believed in His Name, He gave rights to become children of God."

(13) Children not born of natural decent, nor of human decision, or a husband will, (but born of God.)"

(Eph.1:7). In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches

(Matt.18:21-22) “ Lord how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Jesus said, I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times .

Church unity is torn apart when members refuse to forgive, when any member is too prideful to grant forgiveness.

Un Forgiveness:

The Sin of Not Forgiving - “But if you don’t forgive others. (Matt.6:15)

(Heb. 12:15) “ Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled.”

(Psalms 66:18) ‘If I cherished iniquity in my heart...” [I AM A Church Member]

Church Discipline:

Four Laws of the Christian Church:

For every disciple/member - The Law of Love (Jn. 13:34)

For every offender - The Law of confession (Matt.23:24)

For every offended - The Law of forgiveness

The Law of restoration - (Lk.17:3-4)