

UNDERSTANDING THE MANY ASPECTS OF FORGIVENESS

- What must the believer do toward other believers? (Colossians 3:13)
- Forgiveness relationally means to have no personal vendetta against the person but to have released or given over the offender to the only righteous Judge, the Lord, to deal with the offender as He pleases.

A. The AWESOMENESS of FORGIVENESS.

1. **God is a righteous yet _____ God. (Psalm 103:10-12; Ex.34:6-7) Why and how can He do that? (John 1:29; Ephesians 1:7)**
2. **The assurance of _____ is the need of the human heart. (Psalm 130; Isaiah 38:17; 1 John 2:12) Why is this the case?**
3. **In some respects, you are never more like God than when you _____.**
Why is this true?
4. **The assurance of God's forgiveness motivates _____ toward Jesus Christ. (Luke 7:47-48)**

B. The ANALOGIES of FORGIVENESS.

Forgiveness is likened to

C. The ASPECTS of FORGIVENESS.

1. **There is _____ forgiveness before God, as the judge, when a sinner believes the Gospel.**
 - Romans 4:1-8; Acts 10:43; 13:38-39; Colossians 1:14
2. **There is _____ forgiveness with God, as your Heavenly Father, when a saint confesses his known sins as the Holy Spirit convicts.**
 - Psalm 51; Psalm 86:5; Prov.28:13; 1 John 1:9
3. **There has been (Micah 1:7; Psalm 130:8; Day of Atonement) and will be _____ forgiveness from God for Israel when the Messiah (Jesus Christ) comes to set up His future, earthly, promised kingdom involving national _____. (Dan. 9:24-27; Zech.12)**

4. There is to be _____ forgiveness toward others, especially other believers.

- This is to be done _____. (Mark 11:25)
- This may need to be done _____. (Luke 17:3)
- This should be done _____. (Luke 17:3-4)
- This may involve a _____ by the offended. (Luke 17:3a)
- This will involve _____ by the offender. (Luke 17:3-4; 2 Cor.7:11)
- This may need to be done _____. (Luke 17:4a)
- This will need to be done _____. (Ephesians 4:32a)
- This needs to be done in view of how God has graciously _____ you because of _____. (Ephesians 4:32b)
- This does not mean that _____ is immediately restored, or that there are no _____ to face, or that there is no need for further _____.
- This will result in many _____ with God & man - if we fail to forgive. (Heb.12:15; Proverbs 17:9)

5. There is to be _____ forgiveness when a church-disciplined believer repents and desires to be restored to the fellowship of a local church. (1 Cor.5:1-5; 2 Cor.2:4-11)

4 For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you, with many tears, not that you should be grieved, but that you might know the love which I have so abundantly for you.

5 But if anyone has caused grief, he has not grieved me, but all of you to some extent-- not to be too severe.

6 This punishment which was inflicted by the majority is sufficient for such a man, 7 so that, on the contrary, you ought rather to forgive and comfort him, lest perhaps such a one be swallowed up with too much sorrow.

8 Therefore I urge you to reaffirm your love to him.

9 For to this end I also wrote, that I might put you to the test, whether you are obedient in all things.

10 Now whom you forgive anything, I also forgive. For if indeed I have forgiven anything, I have forgiven that one for your sakes in the presence of Christ, 11 lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.