

SO MUCH OF THE BIBLE SPEAKS OF FORGIVENESS ...

Eph 1:7-8 - In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence. (FOUNDATIONAL)

Col 1:13-14 "He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins." (FOUNDATIONAL)

Let's just discuss forgiveness for a minute ...

It's SO IMPORTANT – It's one of the greatest gifts ...

Greek word –aphesis – release (from debt) / forgiveness

God is HOLY (all powerful, all knowing) and decided to forgive us

And gave EVERYTHING to make it happen!

Related to the relationship he WANTS to have ...

**It the beginning of our relationship with HIM**

→ This is why Jesus matters so much – no relationship w/o forgive  
Incarnation SHOWS that relationships matter!

SO, SATAN OFTEN WORKS HERE ...

God towards us – Stumbling block ... we often don't understand

Or accept – How could He? Satan uses

Towards others – Some things we cannot forgive, OR

We don't realize how important it is OR

We are flippant ... OH WELL

Satan sabotages relationships ...

I AM SURE PAUL (the trained Pharisee) drew on Psalms when he wrote these letters... So much about God's love, kindness, forgiveness in the Psalms

32:5 - "I acknowledge my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,' and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

51:9-11 - "Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me." **(THIS IS ABOUT BATHSHEBA – DAVID UNDERSTANDS)**

Psalm 103 - WOW

***Read Psalm 103***

This Psalm does not actually use the word forgiveness here  
It does in verse 3 (Hebrew salach = pardon) but in these verses  
David explains what that forgiveness is actually like

We will focus on vs **10-14** .... That's where David explains forgiveness

**Vs 10** – Sins and iniquities

Take them seriously ...

They cut us off from God – and will continue to if we do not check

Grace is the presence of a pardon, not the absence of penalty

Work at being better even after He has forgiven – it's a heart issue

Hebrews 12:4 – forgotten verse

**Vs 11 and 12** – His love for us

Let's not miss this – forgiveness is about LOVE

A. Love is a verb – you have to DO SOMETHING to show it

B. It's about HIM, THEM ... THEN US

VS 12 – HIS forgiveness is complete ... **is yours ???**

vs 12 Hebrew removed = rachaq (far way) ...

A. If not, it hurts you

B. We are called to model Him ... He will protect you if you make yourself vulnerable

Ps 31:20 - In the shelter of your presence you hide them

from all human intrigues; you keep them safe in your dwelling  
from accusing tongues.

**Vs 13** – God's forgiveness is likened here to COMPASSION ...

Apply that to His love for us

Apply that to our view of others ... those who have wronged us

Literally – We sinned, but He felt bad for us,

Wanted to help us but WE WERE WRONG!

Is that how you view others?

**Vs 14** – often not connected to this section in translations ...

Conclusion – We are dust!

**Forgiveness only works in HUMILITY**

DO NOT TAKE IT FOR GRANTED!!!

Receive it freely from Him, (A GIFT)

Offer it freely to others ... and God will use it to set you free!