

FORGIVING ONE ANOTHER (MARK 1:25; Matt. 6:14-15)

THE MEASURE OF: Quantity, Magnitude, Extent, Range

I. Introduction:

- a. JESUS gives a startling warning about forgiveness if we refuse to forgive others, God will refuse to forgive us, why? Because when we don't forgive others we are denying our common ground as sinners in need of GOD's forgiveness of sin is not the direct result of our forgiving others, but it is based on our realizing what forgiveness means: see (Eph. 4:32) also see (Col. 3:12-17); also (Matt 18:21) the law of forgiveness. It is easy to ask God to forgive us for sin; we should ask ourselves, "Have I forgiven the people who have wronged me?" (Matt. 6:14, 15)
- b. The measure, (quantity) of seventy times: Seventy times seven (540 times) (Matt. 18: 21, 22) The Law of Forgiveness.
- c. Unlimited; as God forgave (Luke 17:3, 4) (to rebuke, reprove, reprimand, find fault) does not mean to point out every sin we see means to bring sin to a person's attention, with the purpose of restoring him or her to God and to fellow humans who you feel you must rebuke (reprove, reprimand, find fault) another Christian for a sin check, your attitude before you speak. Do you love the person? Are you willing to forgive? Unless rebuke is tied to forgiveness, it will not help the sinning person.

II. Forgiving one Another (Matt 11:25; 6:14, 15) The Measure of: Quantity, Magnitude, Extent, Range

- a. Benefits of: Advantage, profit, good; received good
 1. Spiritual cleansing: James 5:15, 16; "The Prayer of Faith" vs. 15, the prayer offered in faith, "Does not refer to the faith of the sick person, but to their faith of the people praying. God heals, faith doesn't and all prayers are subject to God's will, but our prayers are part of God's healing process. That is why God often waits for our prayers of faith before intervening to heal a person. Verse 16, Christians made it possible for us to go directly to God for forgiveness, but confessing (admit own, acknowledge, declare) our sins to each other still has an important place in the life of the church.
 2. If we have sinned against an individual, we must ask him or her to forgive us.
 3. If our sin has affected the church, we must confess is publicly.
 4. If we need loving support as we struggle with a sin we should confess (admit, own, acknowledge, declare) to those who are able to provide that support. (See John 1:9)

5. If after confessing a private sin to God, we still don't feel His forgiveness, we may wish to confess that sin to a fellow believer and hear him or her assure us of God's pardon. In Christ's Kingdom every believer is a priest to other believers. (1 Peter 2:9; Rev. 1:6)

III. Examples of: Illustrating a general rule, model, pattern, warning, precedent

- a. Moses: Number 12:1-13, Dissension of Aaron and Miriam difference of opinion
- b. Jesus: Luke 23:34, The King on a cross: Acknowledged as Son of God
- c. Paul: 2 Tim. 4:16, The Abandoned Apostle; (give up all together)

IV. Conclusion

- a. Eph. 6:13-18; The Armor of God.