

When God Forgives, He Forgive!

When God forgives us, He forgives and He throws that thing “as far as the east is from the west” (Psalm 103:12). Micah 7:19 says God “will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.” Because God’s mercy is renewed for us every morning (Lamentations 3:22-23); we received mercy with salvation (I Corinthians 7:25). God’s grace never leaves us; it is the source of our salvation (Acts 5:11; Romans 6:14).

When we do wrong, even though we ask God to forgive us, it is hard for us to forget and move on; that thing plays out over and over in our minds like a movie. Why? Because we think God thinks like we do; forgive but don’t forget. That’s not true! That is a trick of the enemy that causes us to keep going over that thing in our mind. God forgives us and forget about “it” but as human beings, we might forgive but we don’t always forget it. How many times have you heard people say, “Oh, I will forgive them but I won’t forget it?” Let me give you a wakeup call: that person have not forgiven the one who hurt them!

When we have the mind of Christ, and we do (I Corinthians 2:16), we too can cast these people’s sin “as far as the east is from the west” never to remember them anymore; love covers a multitude of sin. Forgiveness is “an act of pardon;” it means to “blot out;” “remember no more” (**The New Open Bible – NKJV**). If someone does something to you and you say you have forgiven them, but you talk about it every chance you get, you have not forgiven them; true forgiveness is forgiving **and** forgetting – forgiveness is not a feeling but a choice – and you must chose. But remember, if you do not forgive: 1) you are disobeying God and disobedience is sin in His sight; 2) God will not forgive you of your sins if you do not forgive others - Jesus said in Mark 11:25-26:

²⁵ “And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. ²⁶ But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses” (www.biblegateway.com).

And 3) your body, soul, and spirit cannot be healed until you forgive – this is what Isaiah 59:2 says about sin:

“But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear” (www.biblegateway.com).

God is our only healer; if He does not heal us, we cannot be healed. Therefore, if we have sin in our life, God will hide His face from us and will not hear us if we do not forgive; that is plain and simple.

Proverbs 26:2 says "...a curse without a cause cannot alight" (www.biblegateway.com). This means if you have sin in your life, and unforgiveness is a sin, that curse of sickness, poverty, lack, diseases, infirmities, etc. has a legal right to be upon you; you can quote Isaiah 53:4-5 all you like but as Isaiah 59:2 says, God will hide His face from you and will not hear you. Because you are in sin, willfully disobeying His Word, by not forgiving; God will not violate His law to bless anyone.

I know what I am talking about, although you have proof from the Word what I am saying is true, let me give you my testimony of how God delivered me from offense which is all tied into unforgiveness; you first get offended, and if you don't deal with it immediately, it turns to unforgiveness, anger, resentment, rage, fear, bitterness, etc.

Some months back, I began to experience all kinds of things in my body (anxiety and panic attacks, fear, headaches, chest pains, dizziness, etc.). I began seeking God to find out what was going on. I asked Him to let me know if there was any unforgiveness; I even told God I forgave this person who had hurt me years ago. One morning when I woke up, God spoke to me and told me I had to do more than just quote Isaiah 53:4-5 (something to this effect). I kept praying and asking God to reveal to me what was going on, kept quoting Isaiah 53:4-5, rebuking the devil and I had other people praying with me; to no avail. Then I prayed one more time; God answered me. He let me know I had a spirit of offense (the offense was not dealt with so it became a spirit of offense – I was getting offended at anyone who I did not agree with – this happened about 4 years ago) at the same person who I had forgiven; I had forgiven them (or so I thought) but I had not dealt with the spirit of offense.

Since I had not dealt with the offense from them, it was like a snowball effect, everyone else was lumped in the same category as I had put that person; causing me to get deeper and deeper into offense. God also let me know because of the offense, I had built not a wall around myself, but a fortress. He told me I had imprisoned myself – I was only concerned about protecting myself – thinking this would keep others out but it not only kept others out, it kept God out too. This caused me not to receive my deliverance from the hurt that was caused by the sin of offense – this was a barrier that kept God out. In other words, God had hid His face from me and did not hear me until I cried out to Him for deliverance and repented; we must repent of our sins to God.

When you do not forgive others, you must repent to God for holding unforgiveness against that person as well as forgiving them. After I repented, God instantly healed me and I have not had another panic attack, anxiety attack, fear left, and now I am the healed of the Lord. Praise be to God!

I have not stopped asking God to search me and let me know if any hidden thing in my heart against someone else; I do it constantly and try to remember to do it daily. We must examine our own selves to make sure there is no unforgiveness or any other sin in our heart or mind. As David said in Psalm 51:7,10: "...purge me with hyssops.....create in me a clean heart on God and renew a steadfast spirit within me;" that is my prayer today and always. I never want to depart from God's presence nor do I want Him to depart from me.

God loves us so much and He only wants the best for us but if there is ANY sin in our life, He cannot and will not bless us; we must get rid of ALL sin in our life. We cannot say there is little sin or big sin, sin is sin and the end results is death (Romans 6:23 says the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus).

Bottom line:

1. Before you ask God to forgive you:

- Make sure you have truly forgiven others their trespasses against you.
- Make sure you have forgiven yourself – self-bitterness will destroy you.
- Make sure there is no sin in your life – God will definitely let you know if you ask Him from a sincere heart.
- Remember, God know whether you are being honest with Him or not, He sees your heart.

2. After you ask God to forgive you:

- Believe that He has forgiven you – take God at His Word. Jesus said in Mark 11:22-24: "Have faith in God...**Whatever** things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them." Romans 8:1-2 lets us know that after we have accepted Christ as our personal Lord and Savior, we have no more condemnation. Therefore, God will forgive us when we ask from a sincere heart.
- Believe that God's mercy is renewed for you each day. Then when the enemy comes to after you have repented, trying to make you think on what you have done, you can rebuke him and tell him with all confidence, God's mercy has been renewed toward you and He has forgiven you.
- Remember, God's thoughts are not your thoughts and His ways are not your ways; He does not think like we do (Isaiah 55:8-9).

In my closing, I would like to give you some facts about sickness and healing; this was taken from Dake's Annotated Reference Bible, copyright 1963 by Finis Jennings Dake:

Facts About Sickness & Healing

1. Healing was promised on condition of obedience:

- Leviticus 26; Deuteronomy 28; Exodus 15:26; Psalm 91; Isaiah 58.
- James 5:16 – “Confess your faults one to another and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much” (when we confess our faults, then we will be healed).

2. God always healed when lessons were learned and men repented:

- Genesis 20:7, 17; Numbers 11:12; Job 33:12-30; 42:1-12; James 5:14-15.
- Psalm 103:3 – “Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all they diseases.

3. Health as well as healing was promised when men met certain conditions:

- Proverbs 3:1-8; 12:18; 13:3; 15:4; 18:8; 1 Peter 3:10-11.
- Proverbs 18:21 – “Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof” (whether you love [speak it] death or life, you will reap its fruit). As my Pastor explained to us, Jesus HATH SAID: He made this a spiritual law in Mark 11:22 when He said, “**Whatever** things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.” when we speak things out of our mouth, especially negative things, that comes from the heart and you will have what you say.

4. Christ came to redeem us from both sin and sickness (we are not supposed to be sick – we need to stop accepting every report we hear! When we accept sickness and disease, we are coming into agreement with the devil. God did not ordain sickness; therefore, no sickness of any kind is supposed to be in our body! Jesus did away with sickness, diseases, and sin):

- Isaiah 61:1-2; Matthew 8:17; 9:5; Galatians 3:13; Romans 8:11; Acts 10:38; 1 Peter 2:24; 1John 3:8.
- Isaiah 53:4-5 – ⁴ “Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. ⁵ But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we were healed.”

Let’s look at verse 4 carefully:

Surely (without a doubt) Jesus hath borne (Hebrew word is: “nasa” which means “to lift; bear; carry away; cast away; take away; ease; erase”) our griefs (Hebrew word is: “choliy”, “malady” which means “disease;” “sickness”) and carried (Hebrew word is : “cabal” which means “to carry;” “bear”) our sorrows (Hebrew word for sorrow or pain is “etzev.” Jesus became a man of sorrows because He carried our sorrows (vs. 4). Jesus took all our sufferings upon Himself; therefore we do not have to accept sufferings when they come – I mean walk around with our head hung down because God told us to cast all our cares upon Him. Jesus already made provision for us in every way – anything that comes against us – no weapon that is formed against us shall prosper. God has already provided a way of escape out of every situation that comes against us and that way is Jesus. Proverbs 18:10 says, “The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.”

Therefore, Isaiah 53:4 is telling us that Christ carried away, erased, lifted; bore; cast away; eased; and took away all sickness, pain, and disease from us just as He did with sin. God laid these things upon Christ so we would be free; why should we carry sickness, disease, pain, sin, etc. in our body, when Christ already has? Christ did not die in vain!

It is time for the body of Christ to change their mindset about healing; and the only way is by being transformed by renewing your mind in the Word of God. God still heal today! Jesus is the way to our healing. We must stop believing we are sick or believing we have some disease that was pasted down to us; like we are receiving some inheritance. No, the devil is a liar! Just because your mom, father, sister, brother, etc. had heart disease, and it is supposedly runs in your family; that does not mean you have to accept it.

When you accept this cursed this, you are coming into agreement with the devil (power of agreement) – the old nature is under the devil’s rule because of Adam’s sin. You cannot be in agreement with God and the devil. The doctor tell you or one of your family tell you because of the history of heart disease in your family, you probably will have it; do not accept it. And when it tries to come, rebuke it with the Word of God (Isaiah 53:4-5). We must begin to declare and decree God’s Word over our lives, no matter what our bodies “feel” like. Don’t trust your feelings but trust the Word of God. I am not telling you something I don’t do myself. Every day I wake up with a pain in my back or feet but I refuse to accept it; God told me already that I was healed and He confirmed it through my Pastor’s father. So I will “believe it until I see it;” in the words of one of the armorbearers at my church.

Sickness and disease will try to come but it has no place in our bodies – unless there is some sin there – remember Proverbs 26:2, “...a curse without a cause cannot alight?” Also, Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28 tell us sin is the cause of a curse. Psalm 91:10 says, “...no plague shall come nigh our dwelling.” This is not only talking about our nature dwelling but our body which is the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, let us not defile our body by allowing sickness, disease, unforgiveness, or no evil to stay there.

God bless,

Dr. Dorothy E. Hooks

Abused Woman Ministries, Inc.
P.O. Box 490562
Leesburg, FL 34749-0562
352.414.1652 – Office
1.866.269.5196 – Fax
dehooks@abusedwoman.org – Email
www.abusedwoman.org – Main Web Site
www.abusedwoman.ning.com – School of Healing Web Site