



## Are ALL Sins Forgivable?

**Matthew 6:14:** (NASB) *For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.*

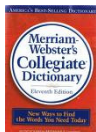


Everybody sins, and anybody who cares about the fact that they sin asks for forgiveness. What does forgiveness mean? Is the way we forgive each other different than the way God and Jesus forgive? Are there sins that are NOT forgivable? What are they? How do we avoid them? What about being the person who SHOULD forgive, but perhaps does not want to forgive? Is forgiveness more of an emotional experience or more of an intellectual one? For such a common subject, forgiveness sure does evoke a lot of questions! Stay with us as we look into forgiveness, the Bible, our culture, and our experiences.

### Questions for consideration:

1. What does it mean to "forgive?"
2. Can we forgive in the same way God and Jesus forgive?
3. Are there any unforgivable sins?
4. Is forgiveness an emotional experience or an intellectual experience?
5. Shouldn't you have to be sorry to be forgiven?
6. Is there an even better forgiveness than just making a sin irrelevant?

### 1. What does it mean to "forgive?"

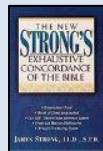


#### Merriam/Webster Dictionary:

**Forgive:** *transitive verb*

- 1: to give up resentment of or claim to requital for <forgive an insult>
- 2: to cease to feel resentment against an offender

#### Four key New Testament words regarding forgiveness:



**Forgive:** Strongs #863 - to send forth, away

This word is very broadly used and covers both Godly and human forgiveness - it is this word that most clearly reflects our forgiveness of one another.

**Forgiveness:** Strongs #859 - freedom, pardon

This word is never used in connection with us forgiving one another. It is only related to the pardon granted through Jesus' sacrifice.

**Forgive:** Strongs #630 - to free, relieve, release, dismiss, let die, pardon, divorce

This word is broadly used but rarely actually translated as "forgive."

**Forgiving:** Strongs #5483 - favor

Broadly used in the sense of having a big heart, not used to describe the taking away of sin.



The following are two stories demonstrating situations in which forgiveness can be invited or can be left out.

 Introduction to Ken Turner's story, *The Power of Forgiveness by Ken Turner*, [crossroadconnexions.org.au](http://crossroadconnexions.org.au)

- *Sixteen years after the murder of his daughter, Ken Turner still grieves her loss after her killer walked free.*

We want to rely on the justice system, but what if it fails us? Where does forgiveness fit in?

 Intro to Chris William's story, *My Burden was Made Light*, [putonthearmoroflight.com](http://putonthearmoroflight.com)

- *In February of 2007, his pregnant wife, second oldest son and only daughter were killed in a car crash by a drunk teenage driver.*

Mark 11:25: (KJV) *And when ye stand praying, **forgive <863>**, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may **forgive <863>** you your trespasses.*

Regarding forgiveness, the basic premise we will work with is the definition of "sending away." When you send something away, it still exists, although it is no longer relevant to your life.



## 2. Can we forgive in the same way God and Jesus forgive?

**An example of God's forgiveness:**

Psalms 103:8-3: (NASB) <sup>8</sup>The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness. <sup>9</sup>He will not always strive with us, nor will He keep His anger forever. <sup>10</sup>He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. <sup>11</sup>For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His lovingkindness toward those who fear (revere) Him. <sup>12</sup>As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. <sup>13</sup>Just as a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear Him.



Wailing in grief, *My Burden was Made Light*, [putonthearmoroflight.com](http://putonthearmoroflight.com)

- *Chris watched his wife die;*
- *He heard himself wailing and grieving their loss in a sort of out of body way.*

**To properly execute forgiveness, one has to have the proper attitude:**

**Isaiah 53:3-7:** (NASB) <sup>3</sup>He was despised and forsaken of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; And like one from whom men hide their face he was despised, and we did not esteem him. <sup>4</sup>Surely our griefs he himself bore, and our sorrows he carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup>But he was pierced through for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being fell upon him, and by his scourging we are healed. <sup>6</sup>All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on him. <sup>7</sup>He was oppressed and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; Like a lamb that is led to slaughter, and like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, so he did not open his mouth.

These scriptures are a prophetic description of Jesus literally carrying our sins, difficulties and tragedies. He was unjustly tried, unjustly convicted, unjustly tortured, and unjustly put to death. What Jesus did here is vastly different than what we can do towards each other.

))) **Forgiveness is stronger than revenge, *The Power of Forgiveness* by Ken Turner, [crossroadconnexions.org.au](http://crossroadconnexions.org.au)**

- *Ken forgave the murderer very early on;*
- *He knew the consequences of a non-forgiving heart;*
- *Forgiveness is more powerful than revenge - it provides personal freedom from anxiety, hatred, etc.;*
- *Forgiveness does not let the other person off the hook - it is for yourself.*

*(Note: We find out at the end of this story that the man murdered again and subsequently took his own life. Although Ken Turner forgave the man, Ken did not excuse him from the consequences and pursued him through the courts.)*

**Jesus forgiving:**

**Matthew 9:2-6:** (NASB) <sup>2</sup>And they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralytic, Take courage, son; your sins are **forgiven <863>**. <sup>3</sup>And some of the scribes said to themselves, This fellow blasphemes. <sup>4</sup>And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, "Why are you thinking evil in your hearts? <sup>5</sup>Which is easier, to say, Your sins are **forgiven <863>**, or to say, 'Get up, and walk? <sup>6</sup>But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to **forgive <863>** sins—then he said to the paralytic, Get up, pick up your bed and go home.

Jesus had the authority to make the sins of others lose their relevance.

**Remember:** to forgive is to make someone's sin against us lose its relevance in our life. The event still happened and the results of the event are still intact, but the relevance of the act *against* us has been diminished. We acknowledge what happened but are not controlled by it.

### 3. Are there any unforgivable sins?

**This text prepares us for never having to worry about an unforgivable sin:**

**Ephesians 4:26-32:** (NASB) <sup>26</sup>Be angry, and yet do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, <sup>27</sup>and do not give the devil an opportunity. <sup>28</sup>He who steals must steal no longer;



but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have something to share with one who has need. <sup>29</sup>Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear. <sup>30</sup>Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup>Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. <sup>32</sup>Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

 **Cameron's Dad, My Burden was Made Light, [putonthearmoroflight.com](http://putonthearmoroflight.com)**

- *The police department called and told us that they had our son Cameron and Cameron had been driving intoxicated and was in an accident; although he was okay, three other people had been killed.*

This next text goes even beyond grieving God's holy power and influence. The Pharisees had just accused Jesus of casting out demons by the prince of demons, which was about as far from reality as could be.

Matthew 12:31-32: (NASB) <sup>31</sup>Therefore I say to you, any sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven people, but blasphemy against the Spirit shall not be forgiven. <sup>32</sup>Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man, it shall be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come.

Forgiveness means that the sin is put away from you. This particular sin - blasphemy or speaking against the Holy Spirit - is not forgivable. It doesn't mean that there is zero hope, it means that you, if you are going to recover from it, have to do all of the work and go through all of the effort. There is punishment involved. Jesus warned the Pharisees that they were treading on thin ice. Let's explore this further after introducing another story.

In our next true story, we look at Corrie Ten Boom, a Christian thrown into a concentration camp for hiding Jews. Corrie befriends a fellow prisoner who is bitter and vengeful towards those who put her in the camp.

 **Live to Hate! *The Hiding Place* (1975)**

- *Prisoner: "The only way to live here is to hate!"*
- *Corrie: "Hate can put you into a worse prison than this!"*
- *Prisoner: "I live to get the swine who betrayed me!"*

There is so much dramatic injustice in the world. Is all of that forgivable?

Hebrews 6:4-6: (NASB) <sup>4</sup>For in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit, <sup>5</sup>and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, <sup>6</sup>and then have fallen away, it is impossible to renew them again to repentance, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put him to open shame.

This is a very strong statement that goes even further than what Jesus said in Matthew 12:31-32.

There are MANY qualifications here listed for committing an unforgivable sin:

- ✓ Enlightenment and experience: You had to have been enlightened and have experience with that enlightenment.
- ✓ The Holy Spirit's indwelling: You had to be a partaker of the Holy Spirit.



- ✓ An understanding of God's Word: You've had a grasp and understanding of God's plan.
- ✓ Abandoning ALL of these things: Meaning you have consciously rejected Jesus' ransom on your behalf.

There is a lot required in order to commit an unforgivable sin, which means that all others are forgivable.



**Observations so far:**

- To forgive is to make someone's sin against us lose its relevance in our life! The event still happened and the results of the event are still intact, but the relevance of the act AGAINST us has been diminished!
- Jesus could make the sins of others lose their relevance to themselves.
- Committing an unforgivable sin is to consciously reject the favor of God's spirit, enlightenment, and experience and to reject the ransom price that Jesus paid on your behalf.

#### 4. Is forgiveness an emotional experience or an intellectual experience?



I needed to let this go, *My Burden was Made Light*, [putonthearmoroflight.com](http://putonthearmoroflight.com)

- *When I did feel anger, I didn't direct it at the person who did this, I directed it at the Savior.*
- *I didn't understand how it had happened, but I did feel and sense that I needed to let this go.*

Matthew 5:43-45: (NASB) <sup>43</sup>You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. <sup>44</sup>But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup>so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

Is this emotional or intellectual? Perhaps we can't start loving our enemies until we make an intellectual decision to do so and then grow into something more. With forgiveness, we have to work on the decision making process rather than how we feel.

1 Peter 2:21-24: (NASB) <sup>21</sup>For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in his steps, <sup>22</sup>who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in his mouth; <sup>23</sup>and while being reviled, he did not revile in return; while suffering, he uttered no threats, but kept entrusting himself to him who judges righteously; <sup>24</sup>and he himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by his wounds you were healed.

What was Jesus' example?

- To love without thought of it being returned;
- To give without reciprocation;
- To suffer without retaliation;
- To rely entirely on the Righteous Judge.





Back to our story, Corrie is remembering what she learned from her now dead sister while they were prisoners.

God is deeper than any pit! *The Hiding Place* (1975)

- *We must tell people that no pit is so deep that He is not deeper still. They will believe us because we were here.*

**Matthew 6:9-15:** (NRSV) <sup>9</sup>Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. <sup>10</sup>Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. <sup>11</sup>Give us this day our daily bread. <sup>12</sup>And **forgive <863>** us our debts, as we also have **forgiven <863>** our debtors. <sup>13</sup>And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one. <sup>14</sup>For if you **forgive <863>** others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also **forgive <863>** you; <sup>15</sup>but if you do not forgive <863> others, neither will your Father **forgive <863>** your trespasses.

Emotional or intellectual? Forgiveness is not just emotional. We have to *choose* to forgive people first. If our foundation is based on feelings, we will crumble because these change over time. If our foundation is based on our principles, we will have strength. Forgiving someone does not release them from the consequences of their actions, it releases *us* from the consequences of their actions.



### 5. Shouldn't you have to be sorry to be forgiven?

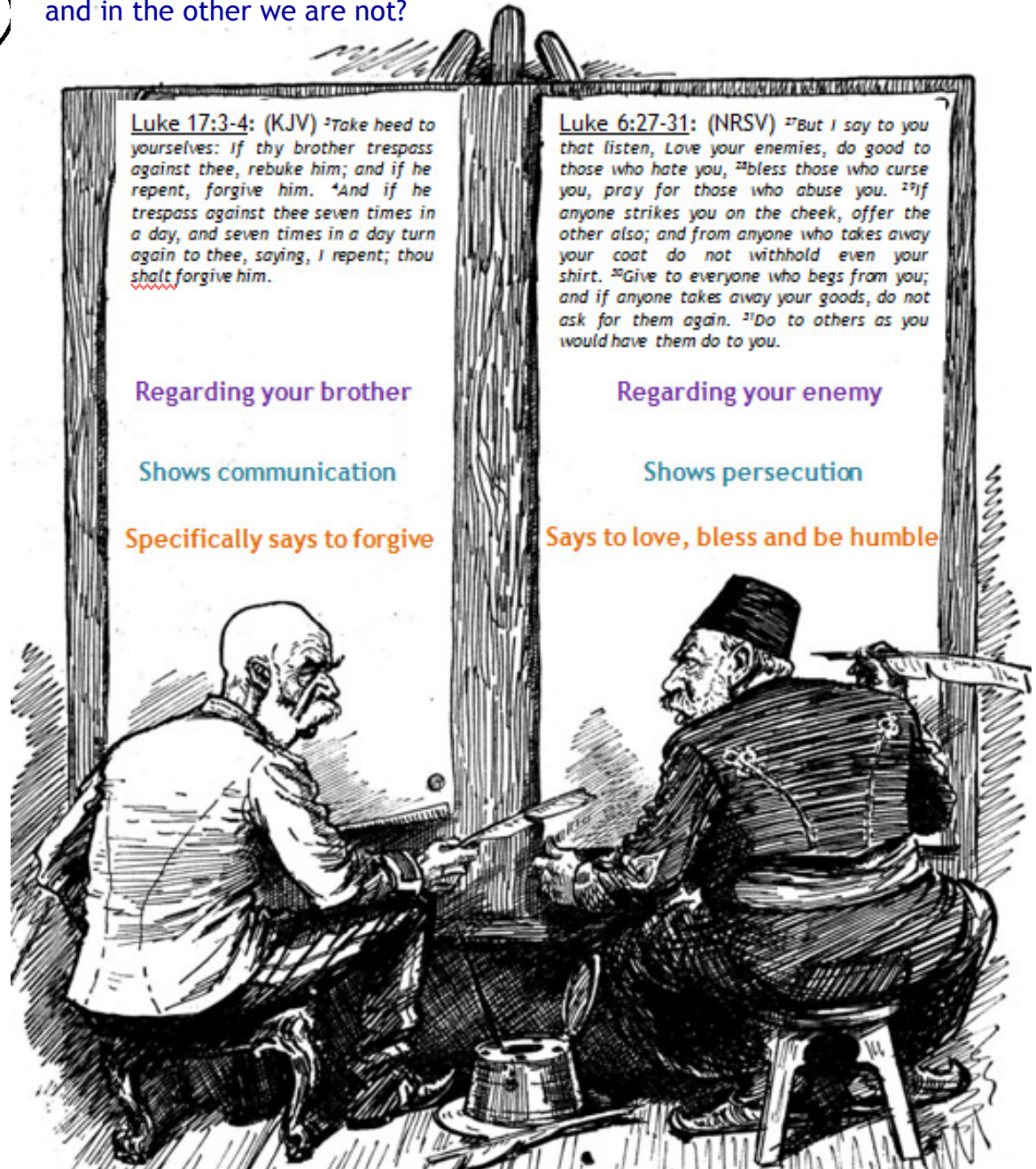
Our next story is about Linden Harris, an Episcopal Priest who served near Ground Zero when the 9-11 attack happened.

Speaker icon) *Garden of Forgiveness, The Concept, Journeyfilms.com*

- *We hope to present a meditation garden where people can go and reflect on the possibility of forgiveness;*
- *We do not in any way excuse horrific acts by evil people or terrorism;*
- *We want to invite people to decide intentionally to opt out of that cycle of violence and revenge.*



## Why in one set of Scriptures we are specifically required to forgive our offender and in the other we are not?



**Luke 17:3-4: (KJV)** *Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him. <sup>4</sup>And if he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him.*

**Regarding your brother**

**Shows communication**

**Specifically says to forgive**

**Luke 6:27-31: (NRSV)** *<sup>27</sup>But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup>bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. <sup>29</sup>If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. <sup>30</sup>Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. <sup>31</sup>Do to others as you would have them do to you.*

**Regarding your enemy**

**Shows persecution**

**Says to love, bless and be humble**

When there is responsibility on the part of the offender, then yes, there is a give and take. But when there is not in terms of your relationship with them, we have to be as magnanimous as possible.

So again, the provocation to forgive not only comes from the selfless and sacrificing examples we are given, but it can come from someone's recognition for their need of forgiveness (such as in the second text). It can come from our own desire to lift up those who may have hurt us, for their own good.



Chris and Cameron meet, *My Burden was Made Light*, [putonthearmoroflight.com](http://putonthearmoroflight.com)

- *He walked in and had a big smile on his face. I had no smile because I was facing the man that I had done this to. He gave me a handshake - he was completely willing to talk about what happened that night. He wants me to let go what had happened - to pick a date and to move on completely. There's no way to explain it...*

We risk setting up a god greater than God by having that "unforgivable event" become our idol. We need to rather put it in perspective and have those circumstances just be an event.

6. Is there an even better forgiveness than just making a sin irrelevant?

Public Reaction, *The Concept*, [Journeyfilms.com](http://Journeyfilms.com)

- *"It's absurd - we should not forgive the people who did this to us;"*
- *"It's overdue - forgiveness is what we're supposed to do;"*
- *"If we don't show a little forgiveness we are no better than the terrorists;"*
- *"Some people have so much anger inside of them they will never forgive those who did this to them, especially people who lost close loved ones."*

Forgiveness is hard because it involves so much emotion.

Hebrews 9:22: (NASB) *And according to the Law, one may almost say, all things are cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no **forgiveness <859>**.*

This is an entirely different word for forgiveness that literally means to erase the event:

**Forgiveness: Strongs #859 - freedom, pardon**

It is only used relating to Jesus' sacrifice as it signifies a permanent removal of sin, rather than just a removal of the relevance of sin. The forgiveness Jesus brought us by his death on the cross was a step higher.

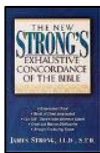
Colossians 1:21-23: <sup>21</sup>*Although you were formerly alienated and hostile in mind, engaged in evil deeds, yet now he has reconciled you* <sup>22</sup>*in his fleshly body through death in order to present you before him holy and blameless and beyond reproach:* <sup>23</sup>*if you indeed continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast not moved away from the hope of the gospel...*

Jesus explains his role in the pardoning of sin:

Luke 4:16-18: (NASB) <sup>16</sup>*And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up; and as was his custom, he entered the synagogue on the Sabbath, and stood up to read.* <sup>17</sup>*And the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. And he opened the book and found the place where it was written,* <sup>18</sup>*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, Because He anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim **release <859>** to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed,*

The release here is not just an opening of the prison door and letting them out. This is opening the door and providing a full pardon - an opportunity to go on and live without the previous consequences of sin. We are not capable of giving this kind of forgiveness.

Luke 4:19-21: (NASB) <sup>19</sup>*To proclaim the favorable year of the Lord.* <sup>20</sup>*And he closed the book, gave it back to the attendant and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.* <sup>21</sup>*And he began to say to them, Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.*







Jesus announced that unconditional release for all sinners had arrived and would begin to be implemented with his sacrifice.

Cameron's response, *My Burden was Made Light*, [putonthearmoroflight.com](http://putonthearmoroflight.com)

- *The fact that he forgave me has become more significant because I know he has a relationship with Jesus Christ.*

The greatest repayment for Jesus' sacrifice in Chris' life that he was capable of giving was to give this young man his forgiveness.

Acts 3:19-21: (NASB) <sup>19</sup>Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord; <sup>20</sup>and that He may send Jesus, the Christ appointed for you, <sup>21</sup>whom heaven must receive until the period of restoration of all things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from ancient time.

There is a period of restoration of all things that will come from the presence of the Lord. We aren't wiping someone's sins away when we forgive them, we just push them away from us. The redemption of Jesus through the ransom wipes the sins away. He pardons us, takes us out of the prison house of sin and death and pays that price.

Now that's forgiveness!

Forgiveness is hard but necessary. When we learn it and apply it, not only from an emotional standpoint but from the foundation of choosing forgiveness, our lives can change. We can also change the lives of those that perpetrated a sin against us.

*So are all sins forgivable?  
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions,  
Think about it...!*



*And now even more to think about...  
only in the **Full Edition** of CQ Rewind!*

#### Different types of repentance:

Matthew 27:3: Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, **repented** himself <3338>, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders...

What did Judas change his mind about? It was about the money based on the fact of them condemning Jesus. He did *not* repent regarding his actions.

Matthew 3:1-2: (KJV) <sup>1</sup>In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, <sup>2</sup>And saying, **Repent ye** <3340>: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.



A Bible Commentary explains the distinction often given between these is:

#3338 refers to an emotional change	#3340 to a change of choice
#3338 has reference to particulars	#3340 to the entire life
#3338 signifies nothing but regret even amounting to remorse	#3340 that reversal of moral purpose known as repentance;



### Four Key New Testament Words:

**Forgive:** Strongs #863 to send forth, away; cry, forsake, lay aside, leave (alone, be, go, have) omit, put (send) away, remit, suffer, yield up

NT:863 (from Theological Dictionary of the New Testament. Copyright © 1972-1989 By Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co. All rights reserved.) A. The Greek Usage. "to send off," is richly attested in Gk. from an early period, and is used in every nuance, both literally and figuratively, from "to hurl" (e.g., missiles) to "to release," "to let go," or "to let be."

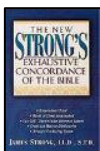
This word very broadly used and covers Godly and human forgiveness.

Some uses:

**Mark 10:13-14:** (KJV) <sup>13</sup>And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them. <sup>14</sup>But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, **Suffer <863>** the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.

**Matthew 18:21:** (NRSV) Then Peter came and said to him, Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I **forgive <863>**? As many as seven times?

**Luke 5:21:** And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, Who is this which speaketh blasphemies? Who can **forgive <863>** sins, but God alone?



**Forgiveness:** Strongs #859 freedom, pardon, deliverance, liberty, forgiveness, remission

NT:859 (from Thayer's Greek Lexicon, PC Study Bible formatted Electronic Database. Copyright © 2006 by BibleSoft, Inc. All rights reserved.)

1. release, as from bondage, imprisonment, etc.: Lk 4:18 (19) (Isa 61:1 f; Polybius 1, 79, 12, etc.).

2. forgiveness, pardon, of sins (properly, the letting them go, as if they had not been committed (see at length Trench, § xxxiii.)), remission of their penalty: [Matthew 26:28](#); [Mark 1:4](#); [Luke 1:77](#); [3:3](#); [24:47](#); [Acts 2:38](#); [5:31](#); [10:43](#); [13:38](#); [26:18](#); [Colossians 1:14](#);

This word is never used in connection with us forgiving one another. It is only related to the pardon granted through Jesus sacrifice.

Some uses:

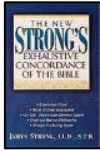
**Luke 4:18:** (KJV) The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach **deliverance <859>** to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,



**Ephesians 1:7:** *In whom we have redemption through his blood, the **forgiveness <859>** of sins, according to the riches of his grace;*

**Hebrews 9:22:** (KJV) *And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.*

**Forgive:** Strongs #630 to free, relieve, release, dismiss, let die, pardon, divorce; also translated depart, forgive, let go, loose, put (send) away, release, set at liberty



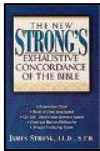
This is broadly used but rarely translated forgive.

Some uses:

**Matthew 19:3:** *The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him, Is it lawful for a man to **put away <630>** his wife for every cause?*

**Matthew 27:17:** *Therefore when they were gathered together, Pilate said unto them, Whom will ye that I **release <630>** unto you? Barabbas, or Jesus which is called Christ?*

**Luke 6:37:** *Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: **forgive <630>**, and ye shall be **forgiven <630>**:*



**Forgiving:** Strongs #5483 favor, deliver, (freely) give, grant

**NT:5483** (from Thayer's Greek Lexicon, PC Study Bible formatted Electronic Database. Copyright © 2006 by Biblesoft, Inc. All rights reserved.) a. universally, to show oneself gracious, kind, benevolent: b. to grant forgiveness, to pardon: **2 Corinthians 2:7**; with a dative of the person, **Ephesians 4:32**; **Colossians 3:13**; with an accusative of the thing, c. to give graciously, give freely, bestow:

This word is broadly used in the sense of having a big heart - not taking away sin.

Some uses:

**2 Corinthians 2:6-10:** (KJV) *<sup>6</sup>Sufficient to such a man is this punishment, which was inflicted of many. <sup>7</sup>So that contrariwise ye ought rather to forgive him, and comfort him, lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow. <sup>8</sup>Wherefore I beseech you that ye would confirm your love toward him. <sup>9</sup>For to this end also did I write, that I might know the proof of you, whether ye be obedient in all things. <sup>10</sup>To whom ye forgive any thing, I forgive also: for if I forgave any thing, to whom I forgave it, for your sakes forgave I it in the person of Christ;*

**Philippians 2:8-9:** (KJV) *<sup>8</sup>And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. <sup>9</sup>Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:*

We all need to live an attitude that allows forgiveness to pass TO US as well as PASS THROUGH US!

**Willing to right the wrongs you have done:**

**Luke 19:1-10:** (NRSV) *<sup>1</sup>He entered Jericho and was passing through it. <sup>2</sup>A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. <sup>3</sup>He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. <sup>4</sup>So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. <sup>5</sup>When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today. <sup>6</sup>So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. <sup>7</sup>All who saw it began to grumble and said, He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner. <sup>8</sup>Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.*



<sup>9</sup>Then Jesus said to him, Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup>For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.

**Live a forgiven life of changed direction:**

Acts 9:1-6: (NKJV) <sup>1</sup>Then Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup>and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any who were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup>As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven. <sup>4</sup>Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? <sup>5</sup>And he said, Who are You, Lord? Then the Lord said, I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads. <sup>6</sup>So he, trembling and astonished, said, Lord, what do you want me to do? Then the Lord said to him, Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.