

**THE DEBT
OF FORGIVENESS**

MATTHEW 6:9-15

Introduction

A. There are only two things in life that can influence how I live:

1. The sin in which I am born in

Psalm 51:5

Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

2. The forgiveness of Jesus Christ

2 Corinthians 5:21

For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Introduction

B. We need to live in what the Bible teaches

1. The newness of Christ

2. The newness of His covenant

3. The new wineskin (with the new wine)

4. The new creation

5. The new commandment

6. Singing the new song (Psalm 149)

7. Waiting on the new heaven and the new earth

Revelation 21:5

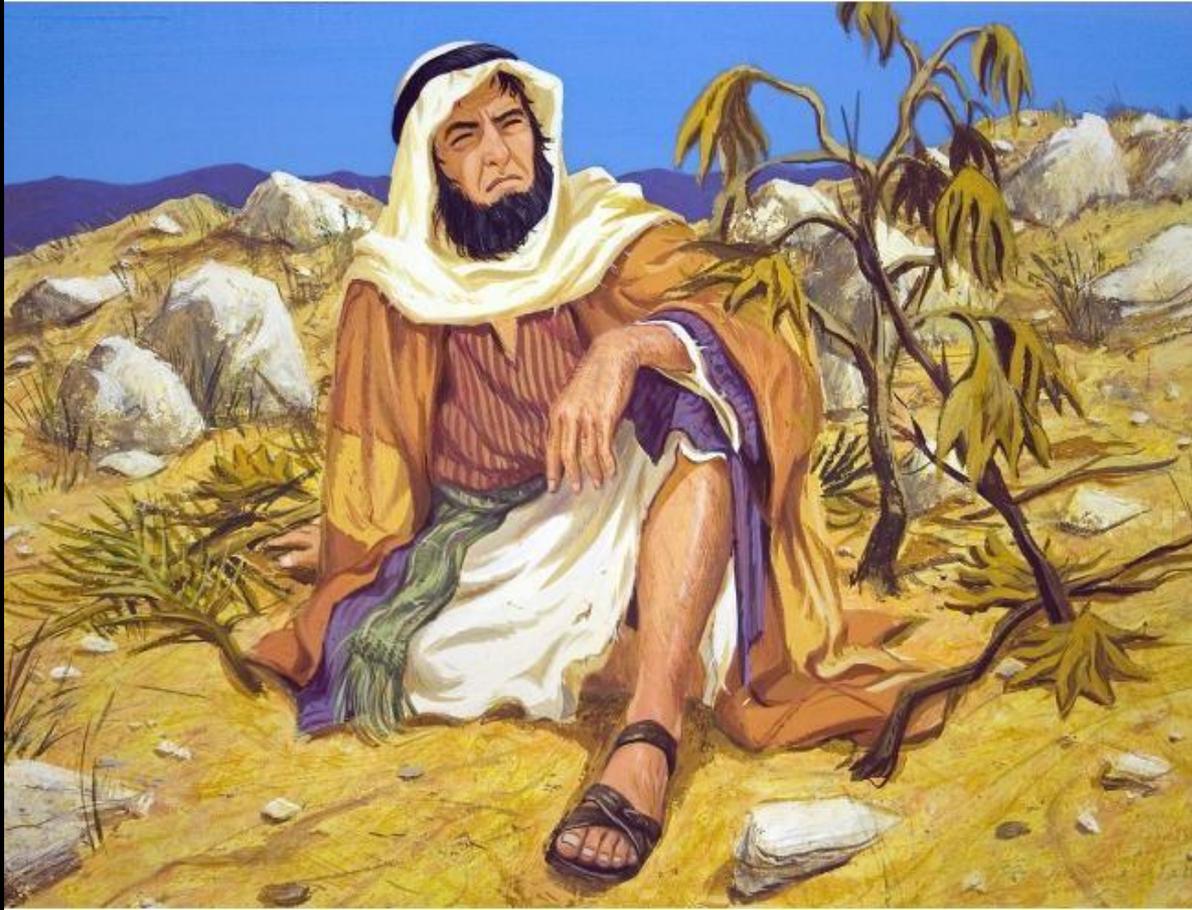
And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

Introduction

But...

The old me can reappear out of nowhere

Introduction



Jonah

Matthew 6:9-15

9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

10 Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

11 Give us this day our daily bread.

12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:

15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Introduction

D. A lack of forgiveness

1. Hinders one's growth and relationship with the Lord
2. Hinders the growth of a church

Are We Living In A Fantasy Of Forgiveness?



Introduction

How Do I Know If I Have Truly Forgiven Someone?

Six Dangers Of Lack of Forgiveness

I. We Prevent Our Own Deliverance

Matthew 6:14-15

14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:

15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

A. Our relationship with Christ will be stopped from growing

B. Christ went to the cross without anyone saying they were sorry

C. Forgive before the apology comes

II. We Become Bitter

Hebrews 12:15

**Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God;
lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and
thereby many be defiled;**

A. God's grace fails in a bitter person

B. Bitterness brings on trouble

C. Bitterness defiles

III. We Become Trapped

2 Timothy 2:26

And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

You will find yourself doing things that are ungodly

IV. We Can Take Offense To Anything

Ephesians 4:30-32

30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

31 Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:

32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

A. The example of King David

B. How can we expect God's power to work in our lives if we offend the Holy Spirit?

V. We Can Give The Devil An Opportunity To Control Us

Ephesians 4:26-27

26 Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:

27 Neither give place to the devil.

A. A command – sin not

B. A condition – resolve disputes early

C. A concern – if unforgiveness persists

VI. We Can Become Insensitive To Our Sins

Psalm 36:2

**For he flattereth himself in his own eyes, until his iniquity
be found to be hateful.**

A. We loose touch with how corrupt we have become

B. We no longer see the need for forgiveness

VI. We Can Become Insensitive To Our Sins

C. We begin to flatter ourselves with our own justification for our “faults”

I John 2:9-11

9 He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now.

10 He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him.

11 But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.

Is it possible that some of the reason why we do not know where we are going in life has to do with our unforgiveness?

VI. We Can Become Insensitive To Our Sins

D. We act like the lost

I John 3:15

Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

How Do We Forgive and Receive Forgiveness?

Colossians 3:12-13

12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

A. Send the offense “away”

B. Release the offense and be released

**FORGIVE
AND BE
FORGIVEN**