

## Don't Drink The Poison Forgive

Pastor John Carmichael

**[Eph 4:32 NASB95] 32 Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.**

- Some drink poison and expect someone else to die. Such is unforgiveness.
- Three main areas of forgiveness: God to humans; Humans to others; humans to self.
- Topical sermon – human to others – very nuanced – does not exhaust the subject. There are extreme cases that removal and law enforcement need to get involved. Most cases do not.
- Tender as opposed to callous. Callous bases today's touch by yesterday's pain.
- "Just as..." is quite the level.

**What are some principles about forgiveness and how do we walk them out?**

**Here are five principles about forgiveness and 5 ways to walk them out.**

- I. **Five principles of forgiveness.** Keep in mind that this is not an exhaustive list. These will get you started.
  - a. The level of forgiveness. [Mar 11:25 NASB95] 25 "Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father who is in heaven will also forgive you your transgressions.
  - b. The importance of forgiveness. [Mat 6:14-15 NASB95] 14 "For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 "But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.
  - c. The negative effect of UNforgiveness. [Mat 14:1-12 NASB95] 1 At that time Herod the tetrarch heard the news about Jesus, 2 and said to his servants, "This is John the Baptist; he has risen from the dead, and that is why miraculous powers are at work in him." 3 For when Herod had John arrested, he bound him and put him in prison because of Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip. 4 For John had been saying to him, "It is not lawful for you to have her." 5 Although Herod wanted to put him to death, he feared the crowd, because they regarded John as a prophet. 6 But when Herod's birthday came, the daughter of Herodias danced before [them] and pleased Herod, 7 so [much] that he promised with an oath to give her whatever she asked. 8 Having been prompted by her mother, she said, "Give me here on a platter the head of John the Baptist." 9 Although he was grieved, the king commanded [it] to be given because of his oaths, and because of his dinner guests. 10 He sent and had John beheaded in the prison. 11 And his head was brought on a platter and given to the girl, and she brought it to her mother. 12 His disciples came and took away the body and buried it; and they went and reported to Jesus.
  - d. The positive effect of forgiveness.
    - i. [Job 42:10 NASB95] 10 The LORD restored the fortunes of Job when he prayed for his friends, and the LORD increased all that Job had twofold.
    - ii. Matthew Henry: "Job's fortune came not when he was disputing with his friends, but when he was praying for them. God is pleased with our warm devotion to one another not with our hot disputes."
  - e. The choice of forgiveness is to forget.
    - i. [Psa 103:12 NASB95] 12 As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.
    - ii. [Jer 31:34 NASB95] 34 "They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they will all know Me, from

## **Don't Drink The Poison Forgive** **Pastor John Carmichael**

the least of them to the greatest of them," declares the LORD, "for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."

- iii. [Mic 7:19 NASB95] 19 He will again have compassion on us; He will tread our iniquities under foot. Yes, You will cast all their sins Into the depths of the sea.
- iv. [Rom 4:7 NASB95] 7 "BLESSED ARE THOSE WHOSE LAWLESS DEEDS HAVE BEEN FORGIVEN, AND WHOSE SINS HAVE BEEN COVERED.
- v. [Isa 43:25 NASB95] 25 "I, even I, am the one who wipes out your transgressions for My own sake, And I will not remember your sins.
- vi. [Heb 10:14-18 NASB95] 14 For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. 15 And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us; for after saying, 16 "THIS IS THE COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THEM AFTER THOSE DAYS, SAYS THE LORD: I WILL PUT MY LAWS UPON THEIR HEART, AND ON THEIR MIND I WILL WRITE THEM," [He then says,] 17 "AND THEIR SINS AND THEIR LAWLESS DEEDS I WILL REMEMBER NO MORE." 18 Now where there is forgiveness of these things, there is no longer [any] offering for sin.
- vii. [Isa 38:17 NASB95] 17 "Lo, for [my own] welfare I had great bitterness; It is You who has kept my soul from the pit of nothingness, For You have cast all my sins behind Your back.

### **II. Five ways to walk out forgiveness.**

- a. Get healed of the wound. Arm chopped off.
  - b. By faith, choose to forgive. Not feelings.
  - c. Bless you enemy. Be appropriate. Sometimes not possible.
  - d. Release your right to revenge. Give them to heavenly and earthly authorities.
  - e. Don't rehearse it. Let it go. Tell it for therapeutic purposes only. The rest is unnecessary and maybe (probably) is sin.
- **When we chose to forgive, we free ourselves from the poison of offense and are able to walk in the blessing of God.**
  - **Don't wait. Do it today.**
    - **Jesus, Father, forgive them they know not what they are doing. He said this while being crucified.**
    - **Stephen – asked forgiveness for them while he was being stoned. [Act 7:60 NASB95] 60 Then falling on his knees, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them!" Having said this, he fell asleep.**