

## THE THEOLOGY OF LOVE Part X

*“love does not take into account a previous offense”*

Reference: **I Corinthians 13:1-13**

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**Characteristic One**... love is **patient**

**Characteristic Two**... love is **kind**

**Characteristic Three**... love is not **jealous**

**Characteristic Four**... love is not **boastful**

**Characteristic Five**... love is not **conceited**

**Characteristic Six**... love is not **rude**

**Characteristic Seven**...love is not **selfish**

**Characteristic Eight**...love is not **provoked**

**Characteristic Nine**... love does not take into \_\_\_\_\_ a previous offense

**verse five** continued“...(love) **thinks no evil**”

In the original language this word translated as *“thinks”* is the Greek word *“logidzomai”*. This *logidzomai* was an ancient bookkeeper’s term. It meant to keep a mathematical account of something.

*Logidzomai* was a word that was used to enter the amount of an item into a ledger so it wouldn’t be forgotten. This *logidzomai* was a running record of what someone owed or what someone owed them.

But true love is not *logidzomai* and that means love does not \_\_\_\_\_ on all the offenses that have been committed against it.

Reference: **I Corinthians 14:20** (see screen)

To understand what forgiveness is we need to first understand what forgiveness is not.

- Forgiveness is not a \_\_\_\_\_
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Consider how God forgives and then forgets:

Reference: **Isaiah 43:25** (see screen)

Isaiah doesn’t mean God \_\_\_\_\_ **remember** our sins but that God \_\_\_\_\_ **not to remember** our sins.

**Formal Definition:** Forgiveness is the intentional and voluntary process through which a victim undergoes a profound change in his attitude and feelings about an **offense** committed against him. He lets go of negative emotions such as \_\_\_\_\_ and he nurtures an increasing desire to wish the offender well.

Forgiveness in Scripture is used to describe a release or dismissal of something. The ancient Greeks had different words that are sometimes translated as our word “forgive.” One word is *“aphiemi”* and that word means *“to let go, to \_\_\_\_\_ and to remit...”* That word was used to describe debts that have been paid or canceled in full.

**Definition:** Forgiveness is a decision not to \_\_\_\_\_ an offense against the offender.

Forgiveness is remembering what happened to us and determining to do four things in relation to the person that offended us:

**One** is I am not going to consciously \_\_\_\_\_ about this incident again.

**Two** is I am not going to bring up this incident again and use it \_\_\_\_\_ you.

**Three** is I am not going to \_\_\_\_\_ about this incident to others.

**Four** is I am not going to allow this incident to stand \_\_\_\_\_ and be detrimental to our personal relationship.

These four statements describe what it means to let go of an offense; to not *logidzomai*.

There is a classic biblical example of forgiveness that was not *logidzomai*.

Reference: **Genesis chapter 45:1-15** (see screen)