

THE THEOLOGY OF LOVE Part XI

"Love does not take into account a previous offense"

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

Pastor Larry Webb

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 **account** 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. 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 keep books on all the offenses that have been committed against it.

That same Greek word "*logidzomai*" is used in Scripture to describe two fundamental things:

One - **God** forgiving _____

Two - Us forgiving _____

Forgiving someone else comes in two different forms: positional (heart) forgiveness and transactional forgiveness

Definition: Positional forgiveness is an _____ commitment to forgive someone that transpires between ourselves and God.

Definition: Forgiveness is a decision not to _____ an offense against the offender.

Definition: Bitterness (continued un-forgiveness) is a refusal to _____ an offender from an offense.

Definition: Transactional forgiveness is a _____ commitment to forgive between ourselves and the offender contingent on his repentance and wanting to receive forgiveness from us.

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

One - I am not going to consciously _____ about this incident again.

Two - I am not going to bring up this incident again and use it _____ you.

Three - I am not going to _____ this incident to others.

Four - I am not going to allow this incident to stand _____ and be detrimental to our personal relationship.

Reference: **Colossians 3:13; Ephesians 4:32** (see screen)

Principle: Christians are the most _____ people on earth so Christians should be the most _____ people on earth.

The parable of the unforgiving servant

Reference: **Matthew 18:21-35** (see screen)

Jesus shared this parable to reinforce just how essential and limitless forgiveness is. The different characters in this parable represent different people.

- the King represents _____ the _____
- the unforgiving servant represents the _____
- the debt the servant owed represents man's _____
- the King releasing the servant from his debt represents _____ in salvation

This parable's **BIG IDEA** is we are to forgive _____ because we have been forgiven _____!