

## **FORGIVENESS**

**BLOCK THREE** 

## 1 JOHN

1:9

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.



## **IMPORTANT POINTS**

- Forgiveness absolves a person from the penalties, not the responsibilities, of the past.
- There is a difference between asking to be forgiven and asking to be excused.
- 3. Forgiveness is the offender's right and the offended's command because it was paid for by the blood.
- 4. There is a difference between forgiveness and restoration.
- 5. Whoever confesses and forsakes their sin will have mercy.

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times."

**MATTHEW** 18:21-22

When Peter asked Jesus how often should he forgive his brother who sins against him, Jesus responded with an overwhelming number: 70 times 7, that is to say, every time.

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven."

6:37

In fact, a promise is connected to us forgiving others of their trespasses against us. Jesus said if we forgive others we will be forgiven also. This is the basic principle of sowing and reaping and treating others like we want to be treated



ourselves. The grace of God is sufficient so that we might access His storehouse and forgive others in Christ.

Forgiveness is both a right and responsibility. Each offender has a right to be forgiven because forgiveness is based upon the blood of Jesus. The offender has a right to be forgiven while the one who is offended has a responsibility to forgive. Forgiveness is not based on what the person does or does not do, rather forgiveness is based on what Jesus did.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 **JOHN** 1:9

My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

1 JOHN 2:1

Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

**PROVERBS** 28:13

## **COMMENTARY**

When a person is born again they become a new creation in Christ and as such gain access to a storehouse of God's grace. This storehouse is filled with every good and precious promise, all paid for by the blood of Jesus. At the point of salvation, the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sins, old things pass away and all things become new. We are forgiven the eternal debt of sin and are given an open door into God's grace of continued forgiveness.



Without question the grace of God is sufficient to cover every failure and the sins which do so often beset the saint. The grace of forgiveness comes when we recognize our sin before God, confess our sin to God, and forsake that sin. This grace is available and abundant when accessed by a true heart of repentance. More than simply saying "excuse me" we must mean "forgive me" with solemn contrition because each request makes its demand on the blood of Christ. For without the blood there can be no forgiveness.

Not only can we access the forgiveness we need for our sin but we also can access the grace of forgiveness which we need to pardon others. Just as Jesus said, "forgive and you will be forgiven." Forgiveness is a right while restoration is a responsibility. Forgiveness does not relieve one of the responsibilities for their past. However, forgiveness does absolve and fully pardon from the penalties of the past. Forgiveness is the responsibility of the one who was offended while restoration often costs the offender.

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