



FORGIVENESS I: Does God Forgive? - No!
Genesis 3:1-24

II. A loving, holy, righteous God must punish all sin
1. On the grand scale

INTRODUCTION

DEVELOPMENT

I. Does God Forgive? - No!

1. What is God like?

2. What are we like?

3. What have we done?

2. As a daily reminder

CONCLUSIONS:

A. A loving, holy, righteous God must punish all sin

4. What should God do?

Forgiveness:
a subset of love

The challenge

Ephesians 4:³² and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, **forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.** 5:¹ Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, ² and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

God is

- **Loving** – 1 John 4:8, Psalm 136; Deuteronomy 7:7-9
- **Holy** – (understood in moral terms) Isaiah 6:1-7; Psalm 99
- **Righteous** – God acts as a relationship requires, allows. In other words, God gives every creature its due. Genesis 18:16-33; Deuteronomy 32:3-4; Psalm 7:6-9; Isaiah 5:16



Sin

Turning away from God to ...

by:

- **Distrusting** God's good intention,
- **Doubting** his promise of punishment,
- **Disobeying** his (direct restrictive – his only restrictive) command, and
- **Desiring** to supplant God.

The response of God

Genesis 2:16-17 ¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; ¹⁷ but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die." .

John 3:17 ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

John 3:36 ³⁶ Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him."



Conclusions

1. A loving, holy, righteous God must punish all sin

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TALK 2

Does God Forgive?

- Yes! -

Exodus 34:1-10

Luke 24:44-47

Steven Pym

FORGIVENESS II: Does God Forgive? – Yes!
Exodus 34:1-16; Luke 24:44-47

INTRODUCTION

DEVELOPMENT

I. The foundations of forgiveness

1. God's character

2. God's commitment

II. The pattern of forgiveness

1. In development

2. In failure

3. In fulfillment

III. What Are We Like?

1. Created Creatures

2. Corrupted Creatures

III. What is God Like?

CONCLUSIONS:


A. God forgives – it's in His character, it's His commitment

B. Punishment is necessary for forgiveness to occur

C. Forgiveness is not the end goal

D. His context is within the process by which a relationship ruptured by sin is renewed/ restored

Forgiveness:
a subset of love



God’s Character

Exodus 34:⁶ And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, “The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, ⁷ maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation.”

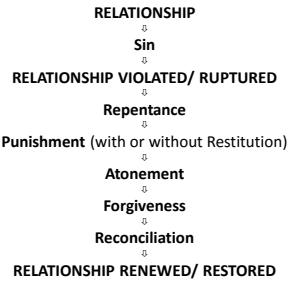
- Numbers 14:1-19
- 2 Chronicles 30:6-9
- Nehemiah 9:16-18
- Nehemiah 9:29-31
- Psalm 78:32-39
- Psalm 103:7-12
- Psalm 145:8-9
- Joel 2:13-14
- Jonah 4:1-3
- Nahum 1:2-6 (only a partial parallel.)

God’s Commitment

Luke 1:⁷⁶ And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him, ⁷⁷ to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, ⁷⁸ because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven ⁷⁹ to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace.”

Luke 3: 3
Luke 4:18-19
Luke 24:45-47
Acts 2:38
Acts 5:29-32
Acts 10:42-43
Acts 13:38
Acts 26:15-17

The Pattern



Definitions

Repentance – it is a change of mind, that recognises that the action is wrong, (that it is not right); and decides completely that that conduct no longer be part of the relationship. It is a change of heart that turns away from the conduct and returns to the person.

Punishment – wipes away the penalty by the shedding of the ‘blood’ of the wrong-doer. This can be initiated by the offender by sacrifice, where the sacrificial victim is accepted as the substitute for the wrong-doer, in which case, repentance comes before the ‘punishment’. There can also be direct punishment of the offender by God, and this is sometimes followed by repentance.

Restitution – makes good the loss/ injury suffered by the one wronged. The loss is made up in kind, usually with interest (20%).

Atonement – averts the wrath of God – by the pleasing aroma of the burned sacrifice.

Forgiveness – to no longer hold against the person the wrong they have done, because the debt has been paid, and this payment fully accepted.

Reconciliation – the relationship is re-established.

The Atonement

Forgiven – never brought against him again.

Justified – declared righteous.

Cleansed – no longer contaminated by his crime.

Redeemed – bought out of slavery to that criminal desire

Reconciled – restored to relationships, with all the benefits.

Adopted – as a child, with all the rights.

United – brought into union with the triune God

Conclusions

1. A loving, holy and righteous God must punish all sin
2. A loving, holy and righteous God forgives –
 - A. it's in His character,
 - B. it's His commitment
3. Punishment is necessary for forgiveness to occur
4. Forgiveness is not the end goal - its context is within the process by which a relationship ruptured by sin is renewed/ restored



FORGIVENESS III: Imitators of God
Matthew 18:15-35; Romans 12:9-13:5

I. Forgiveness

INTRODUCTION

DEVELOPMENT

I. Face to face

II. Forbearance

CONCLUSIONS:

A. We are, each one, to forgive like God

B. We are, each one, to forbear like God

C. We are not, each one, to punish like God

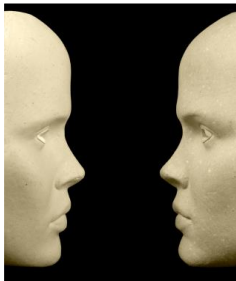
D. God provides means for human beings to enact punishment



The challenge

Ephesians 4:³² and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, **forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.** 5:¹ Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, ² and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Face to face



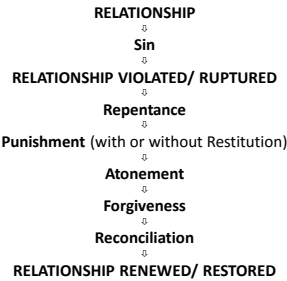




Definitions

- Forgiveness** – to no longer hold against the person the wrong they have done, because the debt has been paid, and this payment fully accepted. It turns to the person.
- Repentance** – it is a change of mind, that recognises that the action is wrong, (that it is not right); and decides completely that that conduct no longer be part of the relationship.
- it is a change of heart that turns away from the conduct, and turns to the person.

The Pattern



Forbearance - God

- 1.Now:** He defers final punishment
Note that there are two types of punishment:
temporal and eternal/ present and final.
- 2.Now:** He blesses and curses – for good.
- 3.Now:** He awaits repentance (→ reconciliation = salvation)
- 4.Then:** He vindicates His name in final judgement.

Forbearance - Us

- 1.Now:** we are to defer final punishment to God.
- 2.Now:** bless and ‘curse’ – for good.
- 3.Now:** await repentance (→ reconciliation = salvation)
- 4.Then:** we long for God to vindicate His name in final judgement, **then**.

Conclusions

- 1. A loving, holy and righteous God must punish all sin
- 2. A loving, holy and righteous God forgives –
 - A. it’s in His character,
 - B. it’s His commitment
- 3. Punishment is necessary for forgiveness to occur
- 4. Forgiveness is not the end goal - its context is within the process by which a relationship ruptured by sin is renewed/ restored

5. We are, each one, to forgive like God

6. We are, each one, to forbear like God

7. We are not, each one, to punish like God

8. God provides means for human beings to enact punishment

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TALK 4

Living a life of love

Ephesians 4:1-5:2

Steven Pym

FORGIVENESS IV: Living a life of love
Ephesians 4:1-5:2

INTRODUCTION

DEVELOPMENT

CONCLUSIONS:

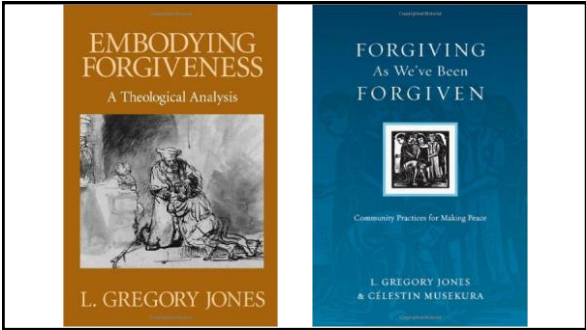
Forgiveness:
a subset of love

The challenge

Ephesians 4:³² and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, **forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.** 5:¹ Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, ² and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Corrupted Creatures

- Futile thinking, senseless hearts, fools (Romans 1)
- Stiff-necked, hard-hearted, obstinate (Deuteronomy 2:30).
- Boastful and arrogant (Psalm 10:3; cf Jeremiah 9:23-24; Proverbs 14:16; 28:25; Nehemiah 9:16, 29)
- Stained, contaminated, defiled, unclean (Leviticus)
- Blind (2 Corinthians 4)
- Enslaved (Romans 6)
- Dead, without God and without hope (Ephesians 2)



1. A loving, holy, righteous God must punish all sin
2. God forgives – it's in His character, it's His commitment
3. Punishment is necessary for forgiveness to occur
4. Forgiveness is not the end goal – its context is within the process by which a relationship ruptured by sin is renewed/ restored
5. We are, each one, to forgive like God
6. We are, each one, to forbear like God
7. We are not, each one, to punish like God – God provides means for human beings to enact punishment
8. We are to be imitators of God
9. We are to live a life of love