

FORGIVENESS

(part 1)

(PSALM 32)

Blessed is he who has **forgiveness** of his **transgression** continually exercised upon him, whose sin is covered; **blessed** is the **man** to **whom the Lord imputes no iniquity** and in whose spirit there is no deceit (Psalm 32:1-2).

Forgiveness is God coming down from heaven with mercy toward the sons of men; it opens the door of heaven and allows man to enter into the very presence of the Holy God. Forgiveness removes the veil that separates man from God and gives him the access to the Father at any time of need of forgiveness. Forgiveness is light and bliss; it brightens the inner man with joy and unites the world with the link of peace - from God to man. In the Psalm thirty second the Psalmist David well defined forgiveness in a very reflective way; it touches my heart and makes me think in the reality of it: "Blessed is he who has forgiveness of his transgression continually exercised upon him, whose sin is covered; blessed is the man to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity and in whose spirit there is no deceit". Forgiveness works two ways: vertically – we receive from God and horizontally we give to others. The door of heaven is always open with Forgiveness available upon our acknowledgement and confession and repentance of our sins, as David shows us in verse five, I acknowledged my sin to You and my iniquity I did no hide. I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord and You forgave me the guilt and iniquity of my sin.

Many times we are hurt beyond words by those we know and love; Yahshua experienced this through the life of Judas when he betrayed Him, by the life of Peter when he denied Him and through his disciples when they abandoned Him; He was spat at and struck by His own people; He was flogged mocked and crucified by the gentiles. He suffered all with love and forgiveness for all, as we hear Him praying, Forgive them, Father for they know not what they are doing. Even when His death was for the forgiveness of the world, He made sure that the world would know that He died forgiving those whom were crucifying Him. He turned the pages of the History book from His suffering to forgiveness. A testimony one can never ignore; He did for us too, so we can apply this truth in our actions toward those who hurt us. This brings me to the words of chapter twelve of the letter to the Hebrews, verses three and four, **Just think of Him Who endured from sinners such grievous opposition and bitter hostility against Himself, so that you may not grow weary or exhausted, losing heart and relaxing and fainting in your minds; you have not yet struggled and fought agonizingly against sin, nor have you yet resisted and withstood to the point of pouring out your [own] blood.** Yahshua completed the work He came to do fulfilling the Law in its entirety, He said, It is finished! We have no excuse to hold one guilty with unforgiveness, when Yahshua, in His suffering, forgave everyone; we have no excuse to hold on to the hurt someone caused, because Yahshua already suffered for

us. There is no forgiveness from Him, if we do not forgive those who hurt us, for unforgiveness condemns one who is already justified and free from condemnation through the death of Yahshua. We must not bring Him down again to suffer shame, for His work is complete, it is done! When we release forgiveness to those who hurt us, we release them from guilt, in agreement with Yahshua's work of forgiveness for them (John 20:23).

Yahshua commands us to acquit and forgive, for us to be acquitted and be forgiven before Him (Luke 6:37). The consequences that unforgiveness brings in one's life is disease and death; it hinders our relationship with God and hinders our prayer from being answered. It closes the door of heaven and the "rain" of blessings we do not experience, only its consequences; it stops the flow of relationship between God and us and between us and our neighbor. Yahshua said, And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him and let it drop, in order that your Father Who is in heaven may also forgive you your failing and short comings and Let them drop (Mark 11:25).

Unforgiveness opens the door to fear, as we stay angry and hateful toward others. The spirit of fear brings with it several other spirits, which will not only handicap our mental and emotion abilities, but also our physical abilities through diseases of cancer, arthritis, heart failure, kidney failure and more.

Love of self brings self pity and unforgiveness. Paul tells us, let each regard the others as better than and superior to himself; let this same attitude and purpose and mind be in you which was in Christ Yahshua, Who, although being essentially one with God and in the form of God, did not think this equality with God was a thing to be eagerly grasped or retained, but stripped Himself, as to assume the guise of a servant in that He became like men and was born a human being. And after He had appeared in human form, He abased and humbled Himself and carried His obedience to the extreme of death, even the death of the cross (Philippians 2:3-8)! God is our avenger; our emotions should be guided by the Spirit of God, not by the flesh.

Yahshua said we must forgive seventy times seven = 490 (Matthew 18:22) an unlimited figure, meaning we should forgive always and perfectly as the number seven implies. Yahshua cried forgiveness for those who were crucifying Him and not vengeance. His bloodshed continues to release forgiveness for the world that continues rejecting Him. Forgiveness is a beautiful act of the mind, emotion and will; it radiates peace in the hearts of those who are forgiving, as well as in the hearts of those who are being forgiven. It spells love, God's perfect love coming down vertically and passing through us horizontally to others. Forgiveness is of God; any other way is contrary and against Him and His work of redemption.

Let's cancel each other's debts as we practice love and forgiveness and heaven will be open to bless and save us. Salvation is vertical and also horizontal.