Jan. 13th - Forgiveness is a Spiritual Concept!

Jan 12 2021

The Bible

1. **Matt. 18:21, 22**

21 ¶ Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?
22 Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.

2. **Jer. 31:34**

34 And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

3. **Luke 5:17–25**

17 And it came to pass on a certain day, as he was teaching, that there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by, which were come out of every town of Galilee, and Judæa, and Jerusalem: and the power of the Lord was *present* to heal them.
18 ¶ And, behold, men brought in a bed a man which was taken with a palsy: and they sought *means* to bring him in, and to lay *him* before him.
19 And when they could not find by what *way* they might bring him in because of the multitude, they went upon the housetop, and let him down through the tiling with *his* couch into the midst before Jesus.
20 And when he saw their faith, he said unto him, Man, thy sins are forgiven thee.
21 And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, Who is this which speaketh blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?
22 But when Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answering said unto them, What reason ye in your hearts?
23 Whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Rise up and walk?
24 But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins, (he said unto the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house.
25 And immediately he rose up before them, and took up that whereon he lay, and departed to his own house, glorifying God.

Luke 17:1-6

New International Version

Sin, Faith, Duty
17 Jesus said to his disciples: “Things that cause people to stumble are bound
to come, but woe to anyone through whom they come. 2 It would be better for
them to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around their neck than to
cause one of these little ones to stumble. 3 So watch yourselves.
“If your brother or sister[a] sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent,
forgive them. 4 Even if they sin against you seven times in a day and seven
times come back to you saying ‘I repent,’ you must forgive them.”
5 The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!”
6 He replied, “If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this
mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it will obey you.

2 Timothy 2:19-23

Living Bible

19 But God’s truth stands firm like a great rock, and nothing can shake it. It is
a foundation stone with these words written on it: “The Lord knows those who
are really his,” and “A person who calls himself a Christian should not be doing
things that are wrong.”
20 In a wealthy home there are dishes made of gold and silver as well as
some made from wood and clay. The expensive dishes are used for guests,
and the cheap ones are used in the kitchen or to put garbage in. 21 If you stay
away from sin you will be like one of these dishes made of purest gold—the
very best in the house—so that Christ himself can use you for his highest
purposes.
22 Run from anything that gives you the evil thoughts that young men often
have, but stay close to anything that makes you want to do right. Have faith
and love, and enjoy the companionship of those who love the Lord and have
pure hearts.
23 Again I say, don’t get involved in foolish arguments, which only upset
people and make them angry.

4. Matt. 6:9–16

9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.
10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as *it is* in heaven.
11 Give us this day our daily bread.
12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the

power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.
14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:
15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.
16 ¶ Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

5. Luke 23:34

34 ¶ Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

Science & Health w/ Key to the Scriptures by MBE

1. SH 497:9

9 3. We acknowledge God's forgiveness of sin in the destruction of sin and the spiritual understanding that casts out evil as unreal. But the belief in sin is pun-
12 ished so long as the belief lasts.

2. SH 6:3

3 Divine Love corrects and governs man. Men may pardon, but this divine Principle alone reforms the sinner. God is not separate from the wis-
6 dom He bestows. The talents He gives we must improve. Calling on Him to forgive our work badly done or left undone, implies the vain supposition
9 that we have nothing to do but to ask pardon, and that afterwards we shall be free to repeat the offence.

Pardon and amendment

3. SH 329:21

21 There is no hypocrisy in Science. Principle is imperative. You cannot mock it by human will. Science is a divine demand, not a human. Always right,
24 its divine Principle never repents, but maintains the claim of Truth by quenching error. The pardon of divine mercy is the destruction of error. If
27 men understood their real spiritual source to be all blessedness, they would struggle for recourse to the spiritual and be at peace; but the deeper the error into which mor-
30 tal mind is plunged, the more intense the opposition to

Error destroyed, not pardoned

spirituality, till error yields to Truth.

4. SH 11:12

Truth annihilates error

Mere legal pardon (and there is no other, for divine Principle never pardons our sins or mistakes till they are corrected) leaves the offender free to repeat the offence, if indeed, he has not already suffered sufficiently from vice to make him turn from it with loathing. Truth bestows no pardon upon error, but wipes it out in the most effectual manner. Jesus suffered for our sins, not to annul the divine sentence for an individual's sin, but because sin brings inevitable suffering.

5. SH 339:1

Divine pardon

XXX. The destruction of sin is the divine method of pardon. Divine Life destroys death, Truth destroys error, and Love destroys hate. Being destroyed, sin needs no other form of forgiveness. Does not God's pardon, destroying any one sin, prophesy and involve the final destruction of all sin?

6. SH 24:20–2

Purpose of crucifixion

Does erudite theology regard the crucifixion of Jesus chiefly as providing a ready pardon for all sinners who ask for it and are willing to be forgiven? Does spiritualism find Jesus' death necessary only for the presentation, after death, of the material Jesus, as a proof that spirits can return to earth? Then we must differ from them both.

The efficacy of the crucifixion lay in the practical affection and goodness it demonstrated for mankind. The truth had been lived among men; but until they saw that it enabled their Master to triumph over the grave, his own disciples could not admit such an event to be possible. After the resurrection, even the unbelieving Thomas was forced to acknowledge how complete was the great proof of Truth and Love.

7. SH 10:22

Experience teaches us that we do not always receive the blessings we ask for in prayer. There is some mis-

apprehension of the source and means of all goodness and blessedness, or we should certainly receive that for which we ask. The Scriptures say: “Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.” That which we desire and for which we ask, it is not always best for us to receive. In this case infinite Love will not grant the request. Do you ask wisdom to be merciful and not to punish sin? Then “ye ask amiss.” Without punishment, sin would multiply. Jesus' prayer, “Forgive us our debts,” specified also the terms of forgiveness. When forgiving the adulterous woman he said, “Go, and sin no more.”

Asking amiss

8. SH 291:1

The suppositions that sin is pardoned while unforsaken, that happiness can be genuine in the midst of sin, that the so-called death of the body frees from sin, and that God's pardon is aught but the destruction of sin, — these are grave mistakes. We know that all will be changed “in the twinkling of an eye,” when the last trump shall sound; but this last call of wisdom cannot come till mortals have already yielded to each lesser call in the growth of Christian character. Mortals need not fancy that belief in the experience of death will awaken them to glorified being.

9. SH 7:27

The danger from prayer is that it may lead us into temptation. By it we may become involuntary hypocrites, uttering desires which are not real and consoling ourselves in the midst of sin with the recollection that we have prayed over it or mean to ask forgiveness at some later day. Hypocrisy is fatal to religion.

Danger from audible prayer

10. SH 22:3

Vibrating like a pendulum between sin and the hope of forgiveness, — selfishness and sensuality causing constant retrogression, — our moral progress will be slow. Waking to Christ's demand, mortals experience suffering. This causes them, even as drown-

Moral retrogression

ing men, to make vigorous efforts to save themselves; and
9 through Christ's precious love these efforts are crowned
with success.

11. SH 17:6

6 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And Love is reflected in love;

Hymns

1. Hymn. 49:1–4

Dear Lord and Father of us all,
Forgive our foolish ways;
Reclothe us in our rightful mind;
In purer lives Thy service find,
In deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard,
Beside the Syrian sea,
The gracious calling of the Lord,
Let us, like them, without a word
Rise up and follow thee.

Breathe through the pulses of desire
Thy coolness and Thy balm;
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
Speak through the earthquake, wind and fire,
O still small voice of calm.

Drop Thy still dews of quietness,
Till all our strivings cease;
Take from us now the strain and stress,
And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of Thy peace.

2. Hymn. 163:1–3

Jesus, what precept is like thine:
Forgive, as ye would be forgiven;
If heeded, O what power divine
Would then transform our earth to heaven.

So from our hearts must ever flow

A love that will all wrong outweigh;
Our lips must only blessings know,
And wrath and sin shall die away.

For it is Mind's most holy plan
To bring the wanderer back by love;
Then let us win our brother man,
And glorify our God above.

3. **Hymn. 561:1, 2**

Our heavenly Father-Mother Love abiding,
We worship You, We praise Your holy name.
Teach us Your children evermore to love You;
Your will be done in earth as heaven today.
Teach us Your children evermore to love You;
Your will be done in earth as heaven today.

O give us grace to meet the coming morrow;
Forgive our debts as others we forgive.
You never lead Your children to temptation.
Deliver us from evil and from sin.
Yours is the kingdom, Yours the power and glory,
World without end, forevermore, Amen.

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