What About Luke 17:3?

Joseph Casimier · Matthew 18:21–35 · Series: **Questions about Faith & God**

INTRODUCTION

- Jesus said, I do not say to you up to seven times, but up to 70 times seven.
- Jesus' answer has nothing to do with numbers. Peter was the one who brought up numbers. You see, forgiveness has nothing to do with keeping count or keeping score.

1 The Kingdom of Heaven Is Like a Certain King

Matthew 18:23–34

- One was brought to him who owed him 10,000 talents. Now I am told that one talent was worth 15 years of wages.
- This world needs people of compassion. People who will not only put themselves in somebody else's place, but be moved to do something about it.
- This is the reason why people won't forgive because they don't want to. They want to hold on to their anger.
- Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you.

2 Forgive Your Brother From Your Heart

Matthew 18:35; Proverbs 24:17; Matthew 5:21–24

- What does it mean to forgive your brother from your heart? I'll tell you what it means. It means to submit to God.
- We might say, I forgive you, and you know what we do? We avoid them. … And that's not forgiving from the heart.
- Not only do we have an obligation to forgive, listen very carefully. We are forgiven so that we can forgive.
- First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

3 Forgive Us Our Debts as We Forgive Our Debtors

Matthew 6:12; Matthew 6:14–15; Ephesians 4:32

- The first literally means to send away, or get this, to cancel a debt.
- If I expect God to forgive me, I must be willing to forgive others.
- For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly father will also forgive you.
- This is a gift that we give to them. You see, forgiveness sets us free when others hurt us.

4 God Leads the Way in Forgiveness

Exodus 34:6–7; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Matthew 7:21–23

- We would not know the real meaning of forgiveness were it not for God's demonstration of it to sinful mankind.
- Number one, it involves desire, the desire to forgive, which relates to a merciful and … a gracious attitude towards rebellious man.
- There is not only the desire, but there is also the readiness of God to forgive.
- God satisfied his justice by punishing sin in his son.

5 What About Luke 17:3?

Luke 17:3; Luke 23:34; Acts 7

- If your brother sins against you, rebuke him. And if he repents, forgive him.
- Do you think that Jesus is implying that if he doesn't ask that it's okay to hold a grudge?
- Father forgive them, for they know not what they do. Had they asked for that?
- It is your job to forgive. And to turn everything over to God and let God deal with it.

6 Reasons, Actually Excuses, Why People Won't Forgive

Romans 8:18

- I'll forgive, but I won't forget. … The fact of the matter is that's backwards. You can't forget until you forgive.
- The size of the offense is no reason to hold on to it. In fact, the bigger the hurt, the more you need to get rid of it.
- The offense is not going to go away just because you turn a few pages on the calendar.
- Forgiveness of God comes only if we are willing to extend forgiveness to others.

THE CHALLENGE

If you're a child of God, you've been struggling with forgiveness. You need to realize that your soul is at stake. Because unless you forgive, you cannot receive God's forgiveness either.

MY NOTES