

Reboot 2018  
Rethinking how to live with the hurt

Lamech

He was the 7th generation from Adam.

He is the first \_\_\_\_\_ mentioned in the Bible having two wives.

In a selfish arrogant attitude, Lamech presumes upon the mercy and lovingkindness of God or may simply have a sarcastic tone for his lack of it!

Instead of seeing God's grace, he sees a selfish loophole.

Viewing the absence of immediate justice as license to commit to be bold in his sin.

This is the first time in Scripture, where sin is considered righteous.

Lamech, represents the unforgiving, bitter, protect by being overly aggressive, arrogant way of life that is so real even today.

Lamech's Perspective – There is a limit to one's ability to forgive

- I have \_\_\_\_\_
- Forgiveness is not a reality it is an ideal

Jesus said to forgive 70 X 7. (Some say it is 77)

A saying that meant on and on into infinity.

The Jubilee was the year after 7, 7s or 49 years. debts were cancelled, land was given back to the original owners, slaves were set free, the guilty were set free.

- It recognized the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
- Redemption of people and property.
- \_\_\_\_\_ for the land.
- Faith for provision.
- Obedience to God's way
- \_\_\_\_\_ for the day that we live eternally in the "Year of Jubilee."

The Greek word for deliverance, pardon and \_\_\_\_\_ is the same word for forgiveness.

***What is forgiveness?***

**Releasing the debt someone owes you and giving it to God to deal with any way He wants.**

What forgiveness is not?

- It does not mean to pretend there is not a debt to pay.
- It does not mean there is no pain.
- It does not mean approving of what someone else did.
- It does not mean making excuses for other people's bad behavior.
- It does not mean overlooking abuse.
- It does not mean denying that others tried to hurt you repeatedly.
- It does not mean letting others walk all over you.
- It does not mean refusing to press charges when a crime has been committed.
- It does not mean that all negative consequences of sin are canceled.

Forgiveness is trusting God will work through my forgiveness  
in the life of the offender.

### I. Releasing the Debt - vs. 23 - 27

If you could put 1 million toward the debt – 15,000 years!

\_\_\_\_\_ – to be affected deeply in one's inner being.

### II. Repayment of the Debt – 28-31

Others notice the \_\_\_\_\_ of this man.

### III. The Consequence of Unforgiveness - vs. 32-34

Torment

- \_\_\_\_\_ - Straining at the oars – Mk. 6:48
- Pain – Rev. 12:2
- Adverse Circumstances – Matt. 14:24
- \_\_\_\_\_ – 2 Pet. 2:8

This cannot be punishment because all of our sins have been paid for in full. Instead, this is the chastening, loving hand of God that uses pain to bring us to our senses and a place of restored fellowship.

Application:

1. Have you received the forgiveness of God?  
You owed a debt you could not pay  
He paid a debt He did not owe.
2. The practice of forgiveness when I am wronged.

1. Can you name a family member, friend or worker that you harbor a bitter spirit?
2. Are you willing to be honest to yourself and God about how you feel?
3. It is an event – You need to decide right now to release the debt.
4. It is a process – You might have to forgive 1,000 times today.

Forgiveness is not a matter of I can't but I won't.

God is sovereign over the hurts others inflict on us and will use them for redemptive purposes, if we let Him. Nancy DeMoss

3. *How do I forgive when I am wrong.*

*The World's way – "I'm sorry"*

I'm sorry that I yelled at you.

(But who wouldn't – you get on everyone's nerves.)

Saying "I'm sorry" does not demonstrate brokenness.

It focuses on the action and not the offense.

Saying I'm sorry when you need forgiveness makes it all about you!

*God's way – I was wrong, will you forgive me?*

I should not have yelled at you. I have no right to lose my temper. Will you forgive me?

- Asking for forgiveness requires humility.
- Giving forgiveness requires humility.

***What is forgiveness?***

**Releasing the debt someone owes you and giving it to God to deal with any way He wants.**

Forgiving will not immediately soothe your pain; instead, it introduces a different pain, a much more hopeful pain because it is redeeming. You do "deny yourself" and die a little in order to forgive. Pride dies. Fairness dies. Rights die, as do self-pity and the sweetness of a pout or the satisfaction of a little righteous wrath. You take leave of the center of the relationship and of your own existence. You die a little, that the relationship might rise alive.

*Walter Wangerin, Jr.*