COMPLETE AND TOTAL FORGIVENESS

Luke 23:32-34

Two others also, evil- doers were led with Yahshua to be put to death. When they had come to the place called Golgotha, they impaled him there, and the evil doers, one on the right and the other on the left. Yahshua said, “Father, forgive them for they do not know what they do.”

FORGIVE: is to give up claim from an offender, to pardon, as to forgive one’s enemies, to give up resentment or give up claim on account of an offence, to remit the penalty of, as to forgive a wrong. Forgiveness comes from Yahweh, as everything great, good and perfect comes from him. Ya’aqob/James 1:17, 2 Kepha/Peter 1:2-4

Elohim, our great Creator made all things and made mankind in his image and likeness. And we were still called the apple of his eye even after mankind sinned greatly against our Creator Elohim. Deut. 32:10, Zech. 2:8 But mankind had gotten so far from their Creator and sinned so greatly as not even considering him as their Creator, and all the time he just continued reaching out to them and keeps forgiving and loving them and calling them back to himself. Exo. 34:5-7, Yesh./Isa. 1:18-20, Yir./Jer. 3:14-15 But most would not! Rom. 1:18-32

Creator Elohim’s final act of forgiveness and redeeming mankind back unto himself was in coming to earth in body, flesh and blood that he got from mankind, Miryam, and giving that flesh and blood body, his only Son for the full payment of our sins. For the wages, or payment of sin was death, and he is the only one who could pay this price. As his Holy Word declares, Rom. 6:23, Mark 2:1-12, Luke 23:34

So, praise and thanks to our only True Living Yahweh; our great Creator for his wonderful forgiveness and redeeming the whole world from our sins. Yohanan 3:16-17 He has complete, total forgiveness for the whole world. But still, most will not accept Yeshua’s great gift! Rom. 6:23 Only a remnant of the world is going to accept his great salvation. In the Hebrew Holy Scriptures under the Torah, sin offerings were the blood of animals that went from sin to sin, day to day for the forgiveness of sin. So, from day to day, or every other day, or at the most every several days another sin offering had to be given for the forgiveness of sins. Lev. 1:1-5, 10-11, 14-15, Lev. 3:1-2 & 6-8 & 12-13 Lev. 4:3, 13, 22, 27, 35 All of these animal sacrifices pointed to Yeshua; the Lamb of Yahveh as he paid the full price and brought in the “renewed covenant” of forgiveness or remission of sins. He is the final and complete sacrifice for sins, there is no other. Acts 5:30-32, Eph. 1:7-8, 1 Yohanan 1:7-8 There is no other sacrifice or offering for sins. Heb. 10:26-27

Yeshua, the Lamb of Elohim, while he was here on earth for about thirty-three years was lied on, mocked, hated, and called a liar, then beaten almost to death, and hanged on a tree to die. Before he gave up the ghost (the flesh, the body,) he said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.” This is “complete and total forgiveness,” from a wonderful Redeemer and Savior. So, we are saved and completely forgiven by the only true Creator Elohim of all love. Rom. 5:8-9, 1 Yohanan 4:7-11

Our great Creator wants us, his sons, disciples to be just like him in all our ways. Let me say it this way, Yahweh in his Holy Word commands us to be just as he is in this world. 1 Yohanan 4:17

Elohim’s Word commands us, his followers to forgive, or we will not be forgiven. He commands us but does not force or make us. We all have a free will to choose, to obey or not to. But to be like him we must obey him in all his words and ways and completely forgive each other as well as our enemies. Matt. 6:9-15, 18:35, Mark 11:25-26, Luke 17:1-4, Eph. 4:29-32, Col. 3:12-13

Complete forgiveness is the only way you will ever find freedom and be released from any offence. If you are resentful, hateful, and become bitter at your offender, you lose. You lose the peace, shalom of Elohim, you lose your love, your joy, your hope, your kindness, your faith, and your self-control. Shalom is by far better than a life of bitterness. The person who gains the most from forgiveness is the one who does the forgiving. You must completely forgive, even those who will not accept your forgiveness, or ones gone on, and yourself. Then you will be reconciled to Elohim and enjoy his abundant life here and gain eternal life with him in the end if you endure and finish this race. Amen. Matt. 5:43-48, Luke 6:35-36, Rom. 12:9-21

COMPLETE FORGIVENESS IS NOT …

1. Complete forgiveness is not approval of what they did. Yahweh never approved of our sins, our wrongs. He hates sin, but he loves the sinner. That is why he, who is Spirit, came in the flesh, and gave that flesh in full payment for our sins. So, when we forgive someone, it does not mean that we approve of the wrong they did.

2. Complete forgiveness is not excusing what they did. Forgiveness is not covering up their wrongs or sins. It is forgiving them of their wrong or wrongs to you and being set completely free.

3. Complete forgiveness does not justify their wrong. Justify means to make right, just, justice. There is no way that evil, or sin can be justified. Elohim will never call something that is evil and that is sin right or just. He said woe to those that do. Yesh. 5:20-21, Mikah 3:1-4 The evil ones that are of political correction today.

4. Complete forgiveness is not pardoning their wrong. A pardon is a legal transaction that releases an offender from the consequences of their wrong actions. The consequences still must be met, for the wrong has been done.

5. Complete forgiveness does not always bring reconciliation. Reconciliation implies restoration of friendship or marriage. And it requires the participation or agreement of two people. The one you forgave may not want to be reconciled. Or after the divorce, one may have remarried. Or one may have gone on. Or you may not want to maintain a close relationship with the person you forgive. Some things can never be the same again. But true forgiveness brings peace, shalom and freedom to your spirit, soul and body. Glory to Yeshua!

6. Complete forgiveness is not denying what they did. The wrong was done, and the wrong cannot be erased or covered up.

7. Complete forgiveness is not blindness to what happened. To see or hear a wrong and turn around real fast and say, “I didn’t see that” or “I didn’t hear that” doesn’t mean there is no wrong. You are just lying. True forgiveness of a wrong does not pretend that no wrong is there. The Amplified Bible, 1 Cor. 13:5 “Love takes no account of the evil done to it,” it pays no attention to a suffered wrong. It did not say it was blind to evil and wrong.

8. Complete forgiveness is not, “forgive and forget.” It is usually impossible to forget meaningful events in our lives, whether positive or negative, good, or bad. Your soul, your mind, is made to remember even in hell. Luke 16:25 And Saw-tan will make sure that you do not forget. Our Creator’s great love and grace is displayed in us when we are fully aware of what happened, and we still choose to forgive. Our Savior doesn’t literally forget our sins. He said that he would remember our sins no more. Yesh. 43:25, Yir 31:34, Heb. 8:12 So when the thought comes to your mind, just say, “That is totally forgiven,” and go on. Also, when you have totally, and completely forgiven, it is under the blood of Yeshua, SO, DO NOT GO AND PULL IT OUT FROM UNDER HIS BLOOD!

9. Complete forgiveness is not refusing to take the wrong seriously. Some people think that to forgive they must dismiss a wrong, or pass it off as insignificant, or it’s no big deal. But that is only avoiding the problem. We cannot truly forgive until we see clearly the offence we are forgiving and understand its seriousness. The greater victory for the one who does the forgiving is to face up to the seriousness, even the wickedness of what happened and still forgive. This is what Elohim Yeshua does. There is no sin too great for him to forgive. He knows exactly what we have done and what it is that he is forgiving.

10. Complete forgiveness is not pretending we are not hurt. It is ridiculous to think that we must keep a stiff upper lip when we have been injured by a spouse’s infidelity, or betrayed, or molested, or unjustly criticized. Yahweh was hurt and displeased with David’s sin. 2 Sam. 11:27 As he is hurt and displeased with all our sins. Yeshua was hurt unto death for all our sins. Rom. 5:8-9, Phil. 2:5-8 And he completely and totally forgave us. Luke 23:34

WHAT COMPLETE FORGIVNESS IS …

1. Being aware of what someone has done and still forgiving them. Total forgiveness is achieved only when we acknowledge what was done without any denial or cover up, saying in sincere love, “I forgive.”

2. Total forgiveness is choosing to keep no records of wrong. Too many keep track of the times they are offended to use them, to prove what happened, to wave them before someone when they want to get back at them. Pointing the finger, blaming others has been a common problem throughout human history. The blame game started with Adam and Hawwah. Adam blamed the woman and Yahweh, Hawwah blamed Saw-tan, the evil serpent type being when she had the choice. But Elohim blesses the ones who do not point with the finger. Yesh. 58:9-10 Love is a choice! Total forgiveness is a choice! It is a choice to tear up the records of wrong we have been keeping. This way resentment does not have the chance to grow. When we develop a lifestyle of total forgiveness, we learn to erase the wrong rather than file it away in our mental computer. This way we avoid bitterness and have a good, sweet spirit and feeling, and being completely free with all love.

3. Total forgiveness is refusing to punish. Refusing to punish those who deserve it. Giving up the natural desire to see them get what is coming to them, is the essence of total forgiveness. In our human nature we want vengeance, namely their just punishment. But this is not Elohim’s way of perfect love. 1 Yohanan 4:12, 16-19 The Greek word torment, is the same for punishment. When we want to repay or punish someone for wrongdoing, we are getting in Yahweh’s way. For he said, he would repay. Rom. 12:17-21 “Vengeance is mine, I will repay,” says Yahweh. He first spoke this in Deut. 32:35 Then Yeshua said, “If your enemy is hungry, feed him, if he is thirsty, give him a drink.” Matt. 5:43-44 In doing this his way, you are overcoming evil with good. Glory! Look at 2 Kings 6:8-23, 24 But later … Too many people who are Creator Elohim’s enemies just do not learn, not to keep going against him. This world is full of them. For we know him who said, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay.” Deut. 32:35, Rom. 12:19 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of a living Elohim. Heb. 10:30-31 So total forgiveness is refusing to punish our wrong doers and leaving that to Yahweh.

4. Total forgiveness is not telling what they did. We do need to ask someone at times to pray with us when we are hurt and done wrong. But that needs to be one that will not tell anyone else with the purpose of hurting your enemy’s reputation or character as a form of hurting them. Anyone who truly forgives does not tell all that their offender did, to get back at them, and punish them. Let love reign.

5. Total forgiveness is being merciful, being like Yeshua in this sinful world. Luke 6:36, Matt. 5:7, Pro. 11:17

6. True forgiveness shows grace and mercy at the same time. And that is how it comes from Elohim. Graciousness is shown by what you don’t say, even if what you could say is true. Yohanan 8:1-12 In this case there was no question, a sin had taken place. But Yahshua’s attitude was to be gracious. Rom. 5:15, Eph. 2:4-10, Titos 3:4-7 The way of the flesh to win is not just enough to look good you must also make your opponent look bad. And unfortunately, many do this. Look at the politicians for one. But to be gracious is withholding certain facts you know to be true, to leave your enemy’s reputation unscratched. The truth of this is, later this enemy could be your best friend. For when our ways please the Lord, he makes our enemies to be at peace with us. Prov. 16:7

7. Total forgiveness is an inner condition. This takes place in the heart/mind. If it doesn’t come from the spiritual heart of a being, it is worthless. Matt. 12:33-37, Matt. 18:35, Mark 7:6 As it is from the mind/heart it will always show. Ps. 7:9, Prov. 15:14, 16:9, Yir. 17:9-10 Just as it wasn’t true forgiveness from the heart then bitterness and bad feelings will soon show. This is why reconciliation is not essential for total forgiveness. If forgiveness truly takes place in the heart/mind, one does not need to know whether one’s offender will reconcile. The forgiver has inner victory and peace.

8. Total forgiveness is the absence of bitterness. Bitterness is an inward condition. It is an excessive desire for vengeance that comes from deep resentment. It heads the list of things that grieves the Holy Spirit of Elohim. Eph. 4:30-32 Many are defiled and miss the grace of Elohim and a root of bitterness. Heb. 12:14-16 The absence of bitterness allows the Holy Ghost to be himself in us, and to give us his shalom, perfect and complete, lacking nothing. His joy, and the knowledge of his will.

9. Total and complete forgiveness is forgiving “ourselves.” A lot of people say, “I know that Elohim forgives me, but I just can’t forgive myself.” Remember what his word says, Matt. 6:14-15, 18:35, Mark 11:25-26, Luke 6:37 All these scriptures tell us to forgive if we want forgiven, and that means self also. There is no lasting joy in forgiveness if it doesn’t include forgiving yourself. Yeshua called us to be his witnesses, and we cannot be effective witnesses if we keep holding onto guilt and shame of not forgiving ourselves. We are holding an open door for Saw-tan to work through us and keep us bound. Forgiving yourself will bring about the breakthrough you have been looking for. It will set you free in ways you have never before experienced. .

The people who haven’t forgiven themselves are unhappy people and will usually be unable to forgive others. The degree to which we forgive others will often be the degree to which we forgive ourselves, and the degree to which we set ourselves free, will often be the degree to which we forgive others.

Or we can put it this way, which comes first; forgiving others, so that we can forgive ourselves, or forgiving yourself so you will be able to forgive others? But it is not complete forgiveness until both are equally done. This is Yahweh’s way.

Forgiving oneself means to experience the love that keeps no record of our own wrongs.

Grace isn’t grace if you must get good enough for it to apply to you. TO PLEASE OUR FATHER, WE HAVE TO TRUST HIM COMPLETELY, AND COMPLETELY OBEY HIM AND HIS WORD. Amen

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