

## THE THEOLOGY OF LOVE Part XI

*"Love does not take into account a previous offense"*

Reference: **I Corinthians 13:1-13**

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**Characteristic One**... love is **patient**

**Characteristic Two**... love is **kind**

**Characteristic Three**... love is not **jealous**

**Characteristic Four**... love is not **boastful**

**Characteristic Five**... love is not **conceited**

**Characteristic Six**... love is not **rude**

**Characteristic Seven**...love is not **selfish**

**Characteristic Eight**...love is not **provoked**

**Characteristic Nine**... love does not take into **account** a previous offense

**verse five** continued "...(love) **thinks no evil**"

In the original language this word translated as "*thinks*" is the Greek word "*logidzomai*" This *logidzomai* was an ancient bookkeeper's term. It meant to keep a mathematical account of something. This *logidzomai* was a running record of what someone owed or what someone owed them; but, true love is not *logidzomai* and that means love does not keep books on all the offenses that have been committed against it.

That same Greek word "*logidzomai*" is used in Scripture to describe two fundamental things:

One - **God** forgiving \_\_\_\_\_

Two - Us forgiving \_\_\_\_\_

Forgiving someone else comes in two different forms: positional (heart) forgiveness and transactional forgiveness

**Definition:** Positional forgiveness is an \_\_\_\_\_ commitment to forgive someone that transpires between ourselves and God.

Definition: Forgiveness is a decision not to \_\_\_\_\_ an offense against the offender.

Definition: Bitterness (continued un-forgiveness) is a refusal to \_\_\_\_\_ an offender from an offense.

**Definition:** Transactional forgiveness is a \_\_\_\_\_ commitment to forgive between ourselves and the offender contingent on his repentance and wanting to receive forgiveness from us.

Forgiveness is remembering what has happened to us but then determining to do four things in relation to the person that offended us:

**One** - I am not going to consciously \_\_\_\_\_ about this incident again.

**Two** - I am not going to bring up this incident again and use it \_\_\_\_\_ you.

**Three** - I am not going to \_\_\_\_\_ this incident to others.

**Four** - I am not going to allow this incident to stand \_\_\_\_\_ and be detrimental to our personal relationship.

Reference: **Colossians 3:13; Ephesians 4:32** (see screen)

**Principle:** Christians are the most \_\_\_\_\_ people on earth so Christians should be the most \_\_\_\_\_ people on earth.

The parable of the unforgiving servant

Reference: **Matthew 18:21-35** (see screen)

Jesus shared this parable to reinforce just how essential and limitless forgiveness is. The different characters in this parable represent different people.

- the King represents \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_
- the unforgiving servant represents the \_\_\_\_\_
- the debt the servant owed represents man's \_\_\_\_\_
- the King releasing the servant from his debt represents \_\_\_\_\_ in salvation

This parable's **BIG IDEA** is we are to forgive \_\_\_\_\_ because we have been forgiven \_\_\_\_\_!