

DEFINITION OF GUILT:

Guilt is a legal liability or culpability to punishment.

Rom 3:23 - for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...

***Matt 5:21–22 - 21** "You have heard that ... 'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT MURDER' and 'Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.' 22 "But I say to you that everyone who is **angry** with his brother shall be guilty before the court... and whoever says, 'You fool,' shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell.*

1 John 3:15 - Everyone who **hates** his brother is a murderer; and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

***Matt 5:27–28** - 27 "You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY'; 28 but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with **lust** for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.*

Rom 3:23 - for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...

*Psa 32:3–4 - 3 When I kept silent about my sin, my **body** wasted away through my **groaning** all day long. 4 For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My **vitality** was drained away as with the fever heat of summer...*

*Psa 38:2–8 - 2 For Your arrows have sunk deep into me, And Your hand has pressed down on me. 3 There is no soundness in my **flesh** because of Your indignation; There is no health in my **bones** because of my sin. 4 For my iniquities are gone over my head; As a heavy **burden** they weigh too much for me. 5 My **wounds** grow foul and fester Because of my folly. 6 I am **bent over** and greatly **bowed down**; I go **mourning** all day long. 7 For my **loins** are filled with burning, And there is no soundness in my **flesh**. 8 I am benumbed and **badly crushed**; I **groan** because of the **agitation** of my heart.*

*Acts 24:16 - ... I also do my best to maintain always a **blameless** conscience both before God and...men.*

*Heb 13:18 - ... we have a **good conscience**, desiring to conduct ourselves honorably in all things.*

1 Tim 4:2 - ...(they are) seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron...

Titus 1:15 - ...both their mind and their conscience are defiled.

Eph 4:19 - and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness.

***Rom 1:18** - For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness & unrighteousness...*

***Rom 2:5** – ...because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath*

THE SOLUTION TO GUILT:

Forgiveness through repentance

2 Cor 7:10 - ...sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance ... leading to salvation...

*Rom 10:9 - that if you confess with your mouth **Jesus as Lord**, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved;*

Luke 24:47 - ...repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations...

Psa 51:2, 4, 7, 10, 12 - 2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin... 7 ...Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. ... 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me...12 Restore to me the joy of Your salvation...

ELEMENTS OF GENUINE REPENTANCE:

- *COMPREHENSION*

- *CONFESSION*

1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

ELEMENTS OF GENUINE REPENTANCE:

- *COMPREHENSION*

- *CONFESSION*

- *CONVICTION*

Psa 51:17 – What God requires is *a broken and a contrite heart...*

ELEMENTS OF GENUINE REPENTANCE:

- *COMPREHENSION*
- *CONFESSION*
- *CONVICTION*
- *CHOICE*

Isa 1:16–17 - 16 ...Remove the evil of your deeds from My sight. Cease to do evil, 17 Learn to do good...

*Matt 3:8 - Therefore bear **fruit** in keeping with repentance...*

*Acts 26:20 - ... repent and turn to God, performing **deeds** appropriate to repentance.*

THE FRUIT OF GENUINE REPENTANCE:

– *RESTITUTION*

Luke 19:8 - ... if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will give back four times as much.

THE FRUIT OF GENUINE REPENTANCE:

– *RESTITUTION*

– *RECONCILIATION*

*Matt 5:23–24 - 23 "Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, 24 leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be **reconciled** to your brother, and then come and present your offering.*

*Pro 28:13 - He who conceals his transgressions will not prosper,
But he who confesses and forsakes them will find compassion.*

TWO TYPES OF FORGIVENESS:

- *VERTICAL* – *forgiveness we receive from God*
- *HORIZONTAL* – *forgiveness we give to & receive from others*

VERTICAL – forgiveness we receive from God

– means to PARDON

Isa 59:2 - „,your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you...

Jer 31:34 - ... I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.

Forgiveness is therefore a *PROMISE TO PARDON*.

JUDICIAL FORGIVENESS

*Rom 4:7-8 - 7 "BLESSED ARE THOSE WHOSE LAWLESS DEEDS HAVE BEEN **FORGIVEN**, AND WHOSE SINS HAVE BEEN COVERED. 8 "BLESSED IS THE MAN WHOSE SIN THE LORD WILL NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT."*

*Col 2:13 - When you were dead in your transgressions ...He made you alive together with Him, having **forgiven** us all our transgressions...*

PARENTAL FORGIVENESS

Matt 6:9, 12 – 9 Our Father who is in heaven...12...forgive us our debts (I.e...sins), as we also have forgiven our debtors.

TWO TYPES OF FORGIVENESS:

- *VERTICAL* – *forgiveness we receive from God*
- *HORIZONTAL* – *forgiveness we give to & receive from others*

Psa 86:5 - For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive...

*Eph 4:32 - Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, **forgiving** each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.*

*Col 3:13 - ... **forgiving** each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you...*

PRACTICAL PROMISES OF FORGIVENESS:

1. I will not continue to think about what you did or said.

Phil 4:8 - ... whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.

PRACTICAL PROMISES OF FORGIVENESS:

- 1. I will not continue to think about what you did or said.**
- 2. I will not bring up the sin again to punish or embarrass you – not to you...and not to others.**
- 3. I will not try to make you pay for what you did.**

FORGIVENESS IS UNCONDITIONAL.

Mark 11:25 - Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone...

*Father, you know what has happened between me and
_____. Help me to not be angry or bitter, nor to seek
revenge in any way, but help me to love this person and desire only
his good. Please work in his heart and bring him to repentance.
Use me in any way You can to help him.*

THE MOTIVE FOR FORGIVENESS:

Matt 18:21-35 – the parable of the king and two servants

Gen 50:20 - As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good...

FORGIVENESS IS UNCONDITIONAL.

RECONCILIATION IS CONDITIONAL – it takes genuine repentance by the one who has sinned to have true reconciliation.

***Matt 5:23–24 - 23** "Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, **24** leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering.*

***Matt 18:15** - If your brother sins, go and show him his fault in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother.*

***Rom 12:18** - If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.*

MISCELLANEOUS QUESTIONS:

1. *What if I don't feel like forgiving someone?*
2. *Is apologizing the same as asking for forgiveness?*
3. *What about forgiving God?*
4. *What about forgiving ourselves?*

JAY ADAMS: *At times people complain over an inability to forgive themselves after having received forgiveness from God or others....The real difficulty usually stems from the fact that the person feels guilty because he knows that, although the unfortunate act has been forgiven, he is still the kind of person who did it.*

IMPLICATIONS:

#1 – The Importance of Training the Conscience

#2 – The Importance of Forgiveness in Relationships

JOEL JAMES: *A married couple that is dealing with many issues, especially from the past, needs to erase the record of their historical offenses by asking Christ's forgiveness for what they have done, and by asking and granting each other forgiveness as well. Once biblical forgiveness has wiped up the spilled ink of their bitterness, they can make progress in piecing their broken relationship back together.*

IMPLICATIONS:

#1 – The Importance of Training the Conscience

#2 – The Importance of Forgiveness in Relationships

#3 – The Importance of Dealing with Guilt

Deut 32:41 - ... *I will render vengeance on My adversaries, and I will repay those who hate Me.*

Psa 7:11 - *God is a righteous judge, and a God who has indignation every day.*

Rom 1:18 - *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness...*

***Psa 90:8** - You have placed our iniquities before You, Our secret sins in the light of Your presence.*

***Heb 4:13** - And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.*

Exo 34:6 - ... the LORD God (is) compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness...

Psa 34:8 - O taste and see that the LORD is good; How blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!

