



“The Supernatural Power of Love & Forgiveness”

Bishop Frank and JoeNell Summerfield

Texts: Colossians 3:12-15, Ephesians 4:1-4,30-32, Mark 11:22-25, Matthew 5:23-24, II Corinthians 2:5-11

The most powerful and valuable forces that God released to us through the shed blood of Jesus that we all need to receive from, and give to each other are Love and Forgiveness. Love and Forgiveness reflect God’s presence and express who He really is as declared in I John 4:7-9. Also to be noted is that verse 17 declares that we are as He is meaning we are actually love also, and should always be willing to Love and Forgive.

I John 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

8: He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

9: In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.

Please note that living through God’s only begotten son Jesus means living through or by His Love and Forgiveness.

Many people have a hard time Loving and Forgiving because they refuse to leave the past events of mistreatments, circumstances,

relationships, or misunderstandings that caused their bitterness, pain, embarrassment, humiliation, or anger.

In order to Love and Forgive the way God has and continues to Love and Forgive us, we must forget past hurts, pains, mistreatments, embarrassments, failed relationships, misunderstandings, anger, etc.

Look at how God is toward us even when we’ve sinned against, or disrespected Him with unloving actions toward Him.

This should teach us by example how we should Love and Forgive each other.

Psalm 103:8 The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

9: He will not always hide: neither will he keep his anger forever.

STOP! Right here: Question: How long do you keep your anger? Also see Apostle Paul’s instruction in this area in Ephesians 4:26.

Also please note that the word **chide** comes from the Hebrew word **reeb**; and means to strive or contend with, to accuse, hold controversy with, to debate with. Question: How long do you debate, accuse, contend and have controversy with others?

10: He hath not dealt with us after our

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sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.

11: For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him.

Questions: How great is your mercy toward those that have wronged you?

12: As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

Sometimes we hold our unforgiveness, grudges, and bitterness over someone that has asked for our Love and Forgiveness, and made their heart right with God. We fail to realize that when they are repentive and sorry we need to confirm our love so they don't drown in guilt, sorrow, and shame. See the Apostle Paul's teaching to the church at Corinth about this area in II Corinthians 2:5-11.

II Corinthians 2:5 But if any have caused grief, he hath not grieved me, but in part: that I may not overcharge you all.

6: Sufficient to such a man is this punishment, which was inflicted of many.

7: So that contrariwise ye ought rather to forgive him, and comfort him, lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow.

8: Wherefore I beseech you that ye would confirm your love toward him.

9: For to this end also did I write, that I might know the proof of you, whether ye be obedient in all things.

10: To whom ye forgive any thing, I forgive also: for if I forgave any thing, to whom I forgave it, for your sakes forgave I it in the person of Christ;

When we Love and Forgive we are doing it in Jesus' place and representing and demonstrating what He did toward us when He died on the cross innocently.

11: Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

One of Satan's devices is unforgiveness, which he uses on us so we keep ourselves from being forgiven by God as the next verses indicate.

The devil doesn't want us to Love and Forgive because he knows God's supernatural power is released through it for signs, wonders, miracles, healings, deliverances, and breakthroughs. He knows if we don't Love and Forgive we can't get our prayers answered as stated by Jesus in the following verses. He also knows our Faith can't work without Love and Forgiveness according to Galatians 5:6.

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Matthew 6:14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:

15: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Mark 11:25 And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

See also Matthew 18:21-35.

Even your giving is not able to be properly credited to your account with God if you haven't taken the time and initiative to go and resolve differences or ought you know your brother or sister have against you.

Matthew 5:23 Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; **24: Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.**

Please note that the word **reconciled** comes from the Greek word *dece-al-las*, and means to cause a state of peace or reconciliation between two persons.

Love and Forgiveness requires you to give all

of your heart, mind, spirit, and body totally. Love and Forgiveness requires total sacrifice and unselfishness. You must consider the other person and their hurts more than your own. It takes yielding totally to the mind of Christ to do this. Look what Jesus said after they beat Him violently, humiliated Him, judged Him unfairly, and hung Him on the cross. See also Philippians 2:1-5.

Luke 23:34 Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

Also notice what Stephen said while they were unjustly stoning him to death.

Acts 7:59 And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

60: And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

Some people are literally stuck in their life and can't move forward in the great and wonderful future God has for them because they won't let go of past hurts, and disappointments they experienced with people they've never forgiven. One can't move on into God's bright future and experience all the things I

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Corinthians 2:9-16 says God’s prepared for them if they won’t Love and Forgive, and let go of the past. To leave unforgiveness and the past you must let go of all unforgiveness and press into your bright God ordained future. Let what people did to you GO!

**Philippians 3:13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,
14: I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.**

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