

The Arrow of Unforgiveness

Matthew 18:21-35

Forgiveness the meaning: to cancel the debt, to cut the cord, to open the cage and set free.

**1) UNFORGIVENESS IMPRISONES
BELIEVERS WHILE FORGIVENESS
FREES BOTH:**

Paul stated; “Now whom you forgive anything, I also forgive. For if indeed I have forgiven anything, I have forgiven that one for your sakes in the presence of Christ, lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.”

**2) UNFORGIVENESS PRODUCES
BITTERNESS WHILE
FORGIVENESS PRODUCES THE
FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT:**

Verses 28-30 (read)

Hebrews 12:15; *“looking diligently lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled.”*

Ephesians 4:31; “*Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.*”

- Bitterness leads to wrath: which is deep displeasure.
- Wrath leads to anger: sudden violent displeasure accompanied by an impulse to retaliate.
- Anger leads to clamor: loud quarreling.
- Clamor leads to evil speaking: saying degrading words.
- Evil speaking leads to malice: to cause pain, the intent to hurt.

Galatians 5:22-26; *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.”*

**3) UNFORGIVENESS GIVES SATAN
AN OPEN DOOR WHILE
FORGIVENESS DEFEATS HIM:**

Verses 31-34 (read)

**4) UNFORGIVENESS HINDERS
FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD WHILE
FORGIVENESS PLACES US IN THE
PLACE OF MAXIMUM BLESSINGS:**

Verse 35 (read)

Ps. 66:18; *“If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me”*

Matt. 5:23-24; “Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift”