

# Nothing But The Blood

## **Intro Video:**

Psychology and human philosophy offer no forgiveness only empty platitudes

## **Problem:**

Rom 12:17-21

The best revenge we have in this life is to forgive our enemies but we often don't understand what it means  
True forgiveness is given not earned...

Matt 18:21-22

"Forgiveness is lovely idea...until you have to forgive someone" - C.S. Lewis

We want our forgiveness to be reasonable, to be earned, to be sensible but it is not.  
There is no justice in true forgiveness, no merit, no scale.  
It is given not earned or it is not forgiveness at all. What a scandalous idea.

Luke 7:40-48

Our understanding of forgiveness is tied to our understanding of the gospel, our understanding of grace, of God's sovereign unmerited goodness and steadfast love towards us.

Joseph understood uniquely- this look at his life...

He is thus our first great teacher of forgiveness but he is not our last...

Genesis 45 teaches us that...

## **Main Idea:**

Forgiveness does not minimize guilt, it magnifies grace  
Forgiveness does not eliminate loss, it embraces love  
Forgiveness does not hide damage, it highlights devotion  
Forgiveness does not remove sin, it reconciles sinners

## **Implication:**

Forgiveness magnifies grace, embraces love, highlights devotion, and reconciles sinners

But where does the guilt, loss, damage and sin go - He became sin  
Forgiveness has a cost (to the forgiver - who eats it)

Forgiveness has a price that can only be paid by the one wronged - and it is not ultimately you (psalm 51)  
Luke 5:20-26;

## **Application:**

True forgiveness runs red with the blood of Christ  
Col 1:13-14

He took all the guilt, all the loss, all the damage, all the sin  
Matt 20:28; 1 Tim 2:5-7; Gal 3:13; 4:5

John 19:30 - finished means completed- paid in full

## **Articles for further study:**

<https://www.gotquestions.org/what-is-forgiveness.html>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Jesus-pay-ransom.html>

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## Text

### **Forgiveness does not minimize guilt, it magnifies grace**

Gen. 45:1 ¶ Then Joseph **could not control himself** (42:24; 43:30-31) before all those who stood by him. He cried, **"Make everyone go out from me."** So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers.

Gen. 45:2 And he wept aloud, so that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it.

Gen. 45:3 And Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?" **But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed (bahal = terrified) at his presence.**

Gen. 45:4 ¶ So Joseph said to his brothers, "Come near to me, please." And they came near. And he said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt.

Gen. 45:5 And now **do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life.**

Gen. 45:6 For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest.

Gen. 45:7 **And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors.**

Gen. 45:8 **So it was not you who sent me here, but God.** He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

Gen. 45:9 Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; do not tarry.

Gen. 45:10 You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, and your flocks, your herds, and all that you have.

Gen. 45:11 There I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come, so that you and your household, and all that you have, do not come to poverty.'

Gen. 45:12 And now your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth that speaks to you.

Gen. 45:13 You must tell my father of all my honor in Egypt, and of all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here."

Gen. 45:14 Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, and Benjamin wept upon his neck.

Gen. 45:15 And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them. After that his brothers talked with him.

*Luke 5:1-8 (faced with guilt)*

*Zech 12:10-13:1; (forgiveness does not minimize guilt)*

*Acts 2:23 (does not minimize guilt)*

*Zech 3:1-5 (magnifies grace)*

*Gen 42:24; 43:30-31 (the heart of the father)*

*eph 3:12; Heb 4:16; 10:19 (we have a confidence)*

### **Forgiveness does not eliminate loss, it embraces love**

Gen. 45:16 ¶ When the report was heard in Pharaoh's house, "Joseph's brothers have come," **it pleased Pharaoh and his servants.**

Gen. 45:17 And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Say to your brothers, 'Do this: load your beasts and go back to the land of Canaan,

Gen. 45:18 and take your father and your households, and **come to me**, and I will give you the best of the land of Egypt, and you shall eat the fat of the land.'

Gen. 45:19 And you, Joseph, are commanded to say, 'Do this: take wagons from the land of Egypt for your little ones and for your wives, and bring your father, and come.

Gen. 45:20 Have no concern for your goods, for the best of all the land of Egypt is yours."

*Gen 45:1; 40:14-15 (never told pharaoh)*

*1 Pet 4:7-8; prov 10:12; 19:11 (covers sin)*

### **Forgiveness does not hide damage, it highlights devotion**

Gen. 45:21 ¶ The sons of Israel did so: and Joseph gave them wagons, according to the command of Pharaoh, and gave them provisions for the journey.

Gen. 45:22 To each and all of them he gave a change of clothes, but to Benjamin he gave three hundred shekels of silver and five changes of clothes.

Gen. 45:23 To his father he sent as follows: ten donkeys loaded with the good things of Egypt, and ten female donkeys loaded with grain, bread, and provision for his father on the journey.

Gen. 45:24 Then he sent his brothers away, and as they departed, he said to them, **"Do not quarrel on the way."**

*Matt 5:21-26; 6:9-15; 18:23-35 (If we do not understand forgiveness it is because we have not been forgiven)*

*eph 4:17-32; Col 3:12-17 (we have a response)*

### **Forgiveness does not remove sin, it reconciles sinners**

Gen. 45:25 ¶ So they went up out of Egypt and came to the land of Canaan to their father **Jacob**.

Gen. 45:26 And they told him, "Joseph is still alive, and he is ruler over all the land of Egypt." **And his heart became numb, for he did not believe them.**

Gen. 45:27 But when they told him all the words of Joseph, which he had said to them, and when he saw the wagons that Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of their father Jacob revived.

Gen. 45:28 And **Israel** said, **"It is enough;** Joseph my son is still alive. I will go and see him before I die."

*2 Cor 5:16-21 (we have a mission)*