



# “The Stewardship of Forgiveness”

Matthew 6:14,15; Luke 11:4

Community Praise Center  
Pastor Henry M. Wright  
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Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing”  
pp. 113,114

“Jesus teaches that we cannot  
receive forgiveness from God only  
as we forgive others.”



- “He who is unforgiving cuts off the very channel through which alone he can receive mercy from God. We should not think that unless those who have injured us confess the wrong we are justified in withholding from them our forgiveness. It is their part, no doubt, to humble their hearts by repentance and confession; but we are to have a spirit of compassion toward those who have trespassed against us, *whether or not they confess their faults.*”

However sorely they have wounded us,  
we are not to cherish our grievances  
and sympathize with ourselves over  
our injuries; but as we hope to be  
pardoned for our offenses against God  
we are to pardon all who have done  
evil to us.”

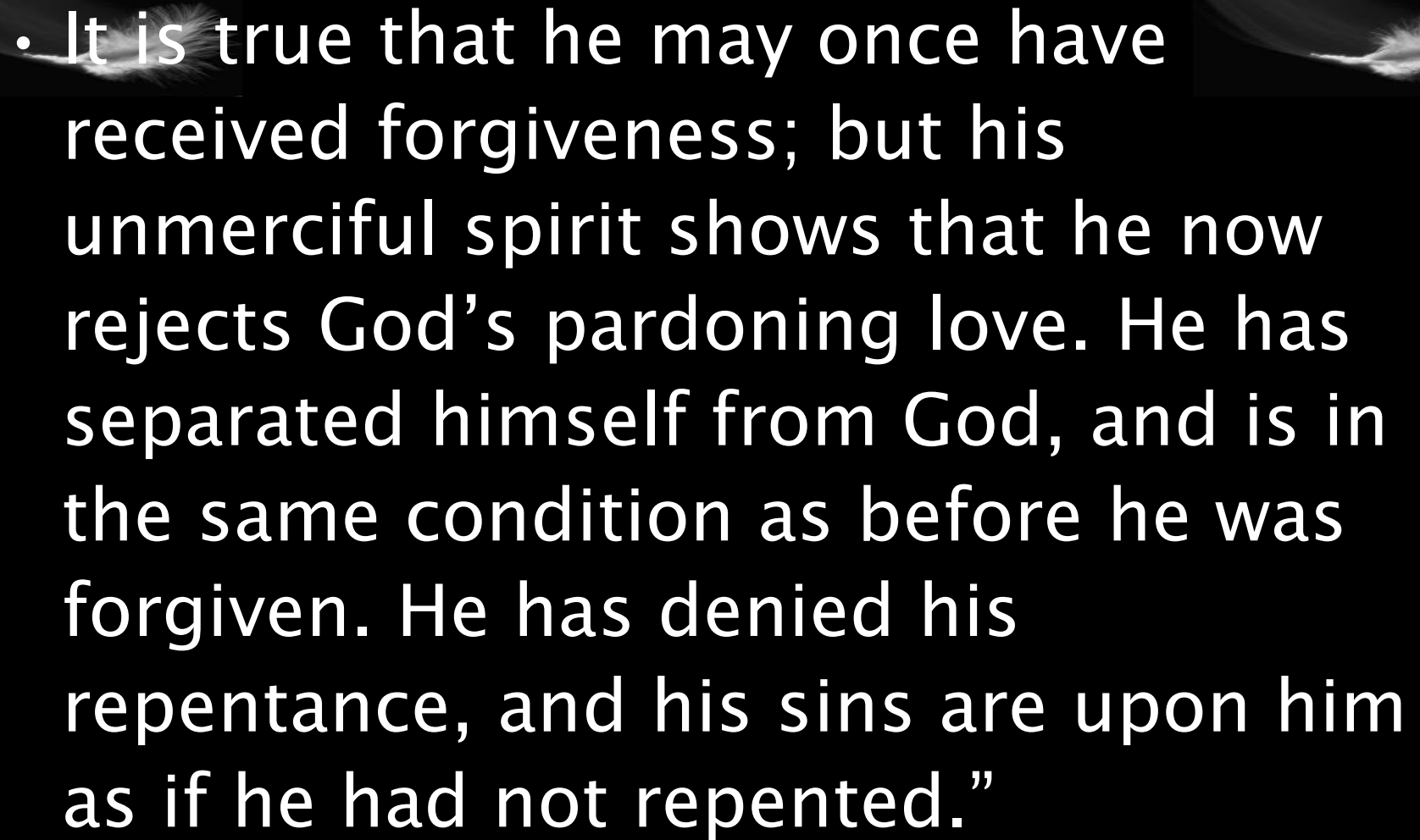
- Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing” pp. 113,114

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- “He who refuses to forgive, is thereby casting away his own hope of pardon.”

- Christ Object Lessons, p. 247



“Nothing can justify an unforgiving spirit. He who is unmerciful toward others shows that he himself is not a partaker of God’s pardoning grace....



- It is true that he may once have received forgiveness; but his unmerciful spirit shows that he now rejects God's pardoning love. He has separated himself from God, and is in the same condition as before he was forgiven. He has denied his repentance, and his sins are upon him as if he had not repented.”

- Christ Object Lessons, p. 251



# Webster has these meanings:

- To cease to feel resentment
- To give up claim
- To grant relief
- To pardon to cancel



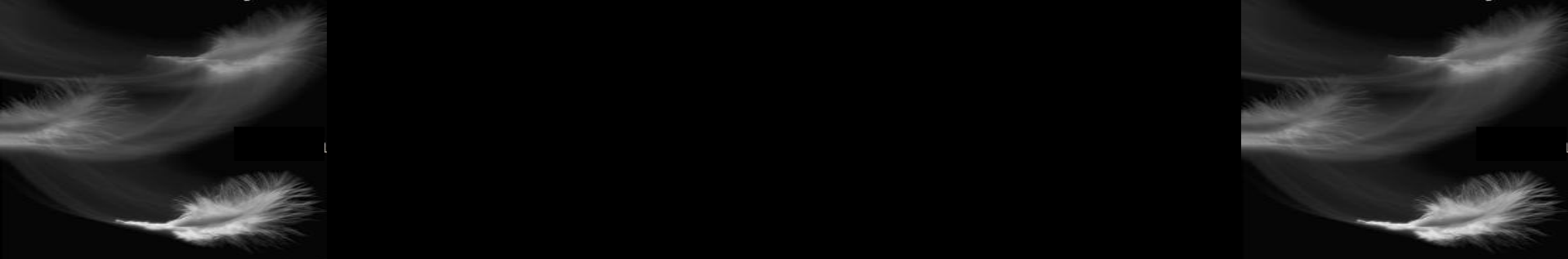
The Most Powerful Hebrew Word Is  
*“Salach”*

- It is a word only used in reference to God and what He does in relationship to a sinner





- And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

- Hebrews 9:22

A pair of white, wispy feathers is positioned in the top-left corner, and another pair is in the top-right corner, both set against a black background.

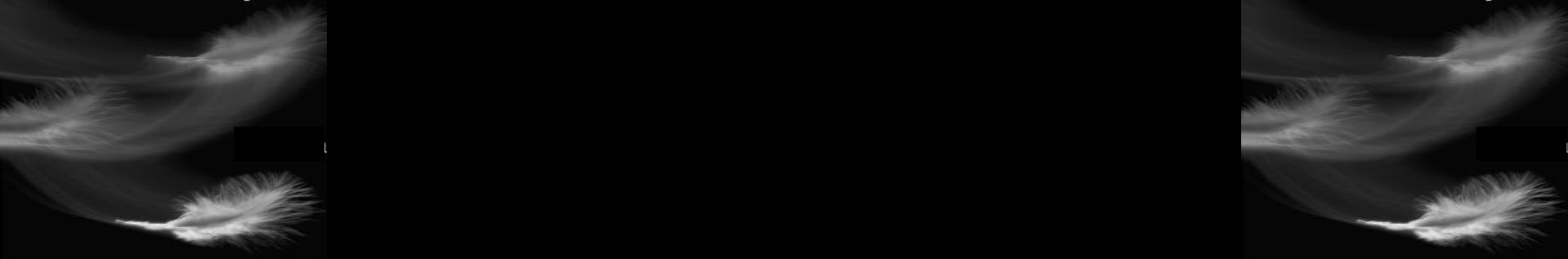
A Hebrew word used for forgiveness is the word “*Nasu*”.

- This word is sweet. It has to do with lifting the load. To forgive someone is to lift their load!





- And Cain said unto the LORD, My punishment is greater than I can bear.

- Genesis 4:13



- And thou shalt put the two stones upon the shoulders of the ephod for stones of memorial unto the children of Israel: and Aaron shall bear their names before the LORD upon his two shoulders for a memorial.

- Exodus 28:12



- And the goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities unto a land not inhabited: and he shall let go the goat in the wilderness.

- Leviticus 16:22

The word “*Nasu*” is a Jesus word. (borne)

- Surely he hath **borne** our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

• Isaiah 53:4

The word “*Nasu*” is a Jesus word. (was upon)

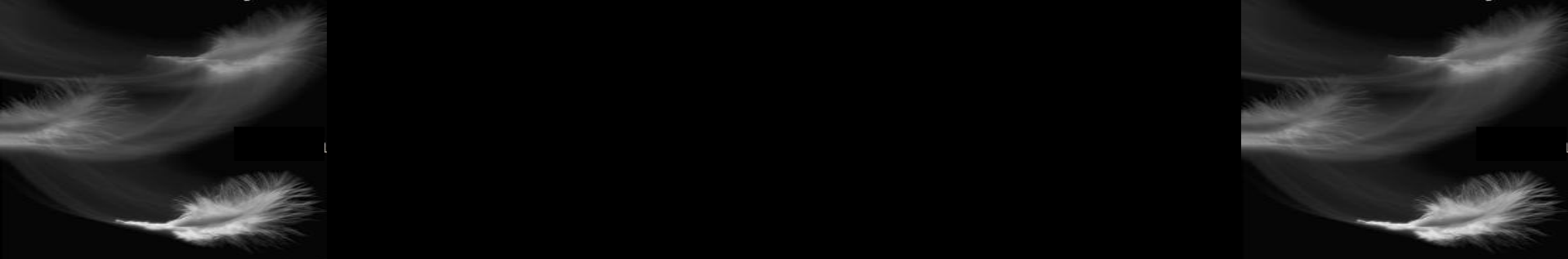
- But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace **was upon** him; and with his stripes we are healed.

• Isaiah 53:5

The word “*Nasu*” is a Jesus word. (laid on him)

- All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath **laid on him** the iniquity of us all.



• Isaiah 53:6



In the Greek, the words used for forgiveness are often “ephimi” or “ileo” or “ilaskomai”.

These words carry the idea of God being propitious. An example of this is the prayer of the publican in Luke 18:13.

- “Lord be merciful to me...”

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- “Here is the ground upon which should exercise compassion toward our fellow sinners. `If God loved us , we ought also to love one another’.  
`Freely ye have received, Christ says, `freely give.’

- Christ Object Lessons, p. 245

- “We are not forgiven *because* we forgive, but *as* we forgive. The ground for all forgiveness is found in the unmerited love of God; but by our attitude toward others we show whether we have made that love our own. Wherefore Christ says, ‘With what judgement ye judge, ye shall be judged; and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.’ ”

- Ibid., p. 251



## Matthew 18: 23–35.



- It is the story of a forgiven man who would not forgive. That is the heart of the story.

# Forgiveness is Restoration.

- And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst,
- They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act.
- Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou?

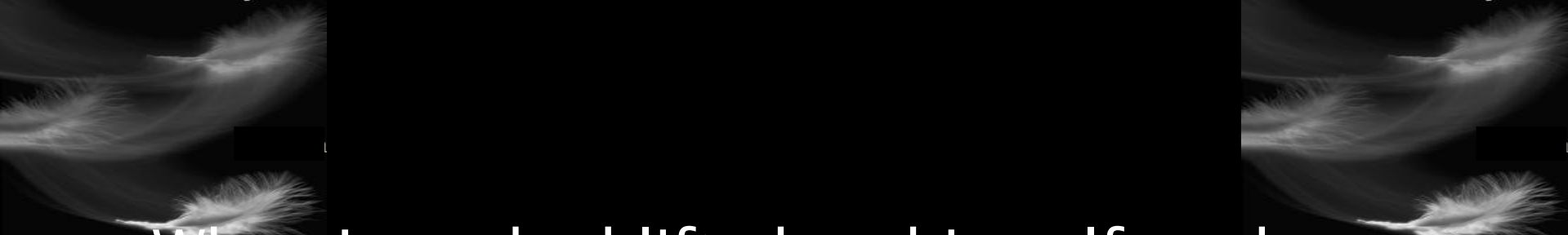
• John 8:3–5

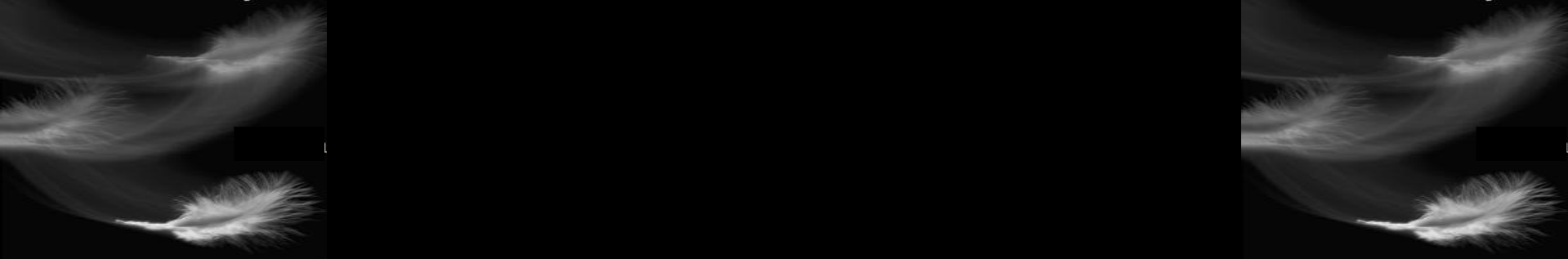
- This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not.
- So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.
- And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground.



- And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.

- John 8:9

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- When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee?
  - She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.

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- “We should not try to lessen our guilt by excusing sin. We must accept God’s estimate of sin. **(THIS WAS THE MISTAKE OF THE UNFORGIVING SERVANT)** Calvary alone can reveal the terrible enormity of sin. If we had to bear our own guilt, it would crush us.”

- Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing, p. 116