

The Wonder of Forgiveness

The Power of Forgiveness

The Wonder of Forgiveness

The process of forgiveness
converts a man or woman
from a sinner into the Meek,
who fear Yahweh.

Meekness is...

- SELF-less and humble
- Teachable and mouldable
- Trusting and committed to God and His Word

...the basis of relationship with Yahweh

The experience of forgiveness

“Forgiveness is a vital part of the disciple’s experience of life in Christ. As a man learns that the world is guilty before God, as a man realises this - not as just an intellectual assent, but with the moral awareness of his real standing before his Maker - then forgiveness comes as a lifting of a load which is unbearable. The shame of the past goes with the conviction that God has cast his sins behind His back. But the effect of forgiveness is not only the sense of freedom from the past; it is a power for the future.”

- John Carter - *Delight in God’s Law*, p120

Forgiveness affects...

- Our relationship with ourselves
- Our relationship with God
- Our relationship with others

Forgiveness brings...

Psalm 51:

- v.6 Truth governs the inner being
- v.10 A clean heart and constant spirit (conscience)
- v.11–12 Unity and fellowship with God
- v.8, 12, 15 The joy of salvation
- v.16–17 Genuine worship

The Wonder of Forgiveness

Psalm 51:

- v.1 blot out my transgressions
- v.2 wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity
cleanse me from my sin
- v.7 purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow
- v.9 hide thy face from my sin
blot out all mine iniquities
- v.14 deliver me from blood guiltiness

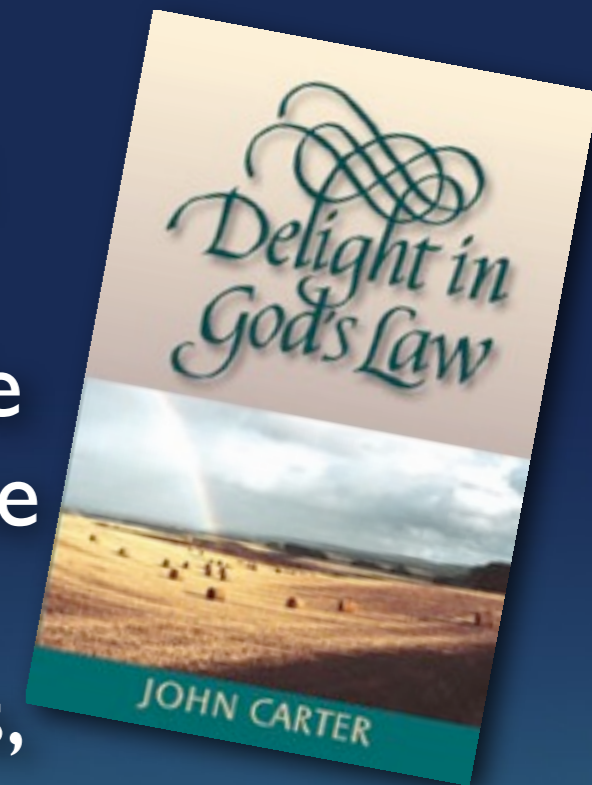
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The Power of Forgiveness

“Paul could never forget the days when he was a persecutor, although he had found mercy. The past can therefore abide, not now with the power of habit holding in bondage, but producing the humble and contrite heart. The memory of the guilt and the consciousness of forgiveness are part of the personality. And as the one disciplines and corrects, so the other encourages and guides in godliness. The grace of God is creative—the new creature is a forgiven man who seeks to walk worthy of God.”



- John Carter - *Delight in God's Law*, p 124

Forgiveness affects...

Our relationship with ourselves



1. Our relationship with God
2. Our relationship with others

God's answer to sin

chesed

**The Covenant
Love of God
in
CHRIST**

Graciousness Compassion
Longsuffering
Covenant mercy
Truth

by no
means
clear
the
guilty

Condemnation

Without
Hope

DEATH

A state of continual repentance

1 John 3:6

“Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not:
whosoever sinneth hath not seen him,
neither known him.”

A state of continual forgiveness

1 John 3:9

“Whoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.”

The power of forgiveness

“There is something that repentance and forgiveness does effect, however. Even though the consequences of sin remain, a man’s attitude is changed. It is possible that the afflictions which produce cursing in one man as he pursues a godless evil life, may so act on a man who has found forgiveness with God that those same difficulties, become a discipline. A man humble and contrite, awake to the folly of sin, accepts the trials of his life as a purifying experience, and becomes ennobled as he patiently seeks to live the life of the new man in Christ Jesus. Penitence on man’s part and forgiveness on God’s part can so effectively enable a man to endure the consequences of sin, that he uses them as transforming experiences, becoming thereby, more than conqueror in that not only is sin overcome, but its effects are made to serve as a training in righteousness.”

God's love

Exodus 34:6–7

Yahweh

- Compassion
- Graciousness
- Longsuffering
- Covenant mercy
- Truth

1 John 4: 8, 16

God

is

love



The power of forgiveness

Sin is breaking God's commandments

- Love God
- Love our neighbour

God's answer is:

- Love (compassion, grace, longsuffering, covenant mercy and truth)
- ...towards His neighbour

The power of forgiveness

What does God seek from the repentant heart?

Love:

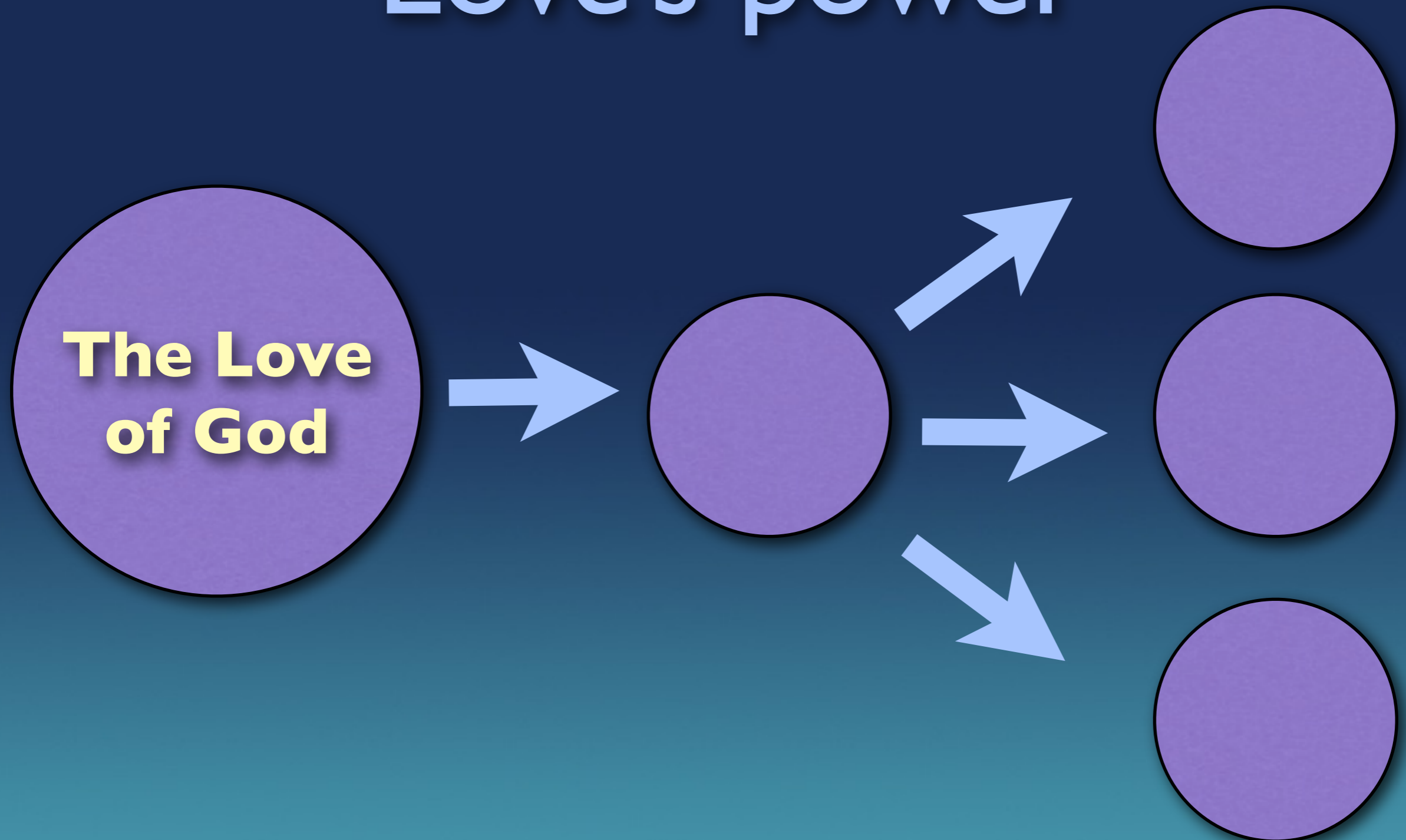
- a) Love of God
- b) Love of neighbour

Love's power

Galatians 5:6

“In Christ...
faith worketh by
love”

Love's power



Love's power

1 Peter 4:8

“And above all things, have fervent love to one another; for love will cover a multitude of sins.”

Love's power

Galatians 6:1–3

“Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself.”

Forgive one another

Matt. 6:12–15

“And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors...

“For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”

Forgive one another

Mark. 11:25–26

“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. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.”

Forgive one another

Ephesians 4:32

“And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you.”

Ephesians 5:1–2

“Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; and walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.”

Forgive one another

Luke 6:37

“Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven.”

Graciousness

Psalm 37:21, 26

“The wicked borroweth, and payeth not again: but the righteous showeth **mercy** (graciousness), and **giveth**...He is ever **merciful** (gracious), and **lendeth**; and his seed is blessed..”

Proverbs 19:17

“He that hath **pity** (graciousness) upon the poor **lendeth** unto Yahweh; and that which he hath given will he (God) pay him again..”

Forgive one another

Colossian 3:12–15

“Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.”

Love's power

John 13:34-35

“A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.”