



Freedom
from
the Religious
Spirit

Part Five:
*Forgiving others
proves our
freedom from
dead religion*

35 “My heavenly Father will also do the same to you, if each of you does not *forgive his brother from your heart.*”

Matthew 18:35

Forgiveness from the heart
is possible when we have
received and embraced the
heart of the Father.

Unforgiveness keeps us bound to the Law of sin and death by trying to live in the land of Grace and Mercy while barring entry to those who have hurt us.

The power of the Spirit has given us the ability to forgive at a supernatural level, yet the choice to forgive or retain remains ours.

22 And when He had said this, He
breathed on them and *said to
them, “***Receive the Holy Spirit.***”

John 20:22–23

23 “If you *forgive* the sins of any, *their sins have been forgiven* them; if you *retain* the *sins* of any, *they have been retained.*”

Just because someone
has been offensive does
not mean we have to
become offended.

Offense = "skandalon"
— "a stumbling block"
— something that
causes us to sin/ get
off the path with God.

18 Now all *these* things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation,

2 Corinthians 5:18–19

19 namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, *not counting their trespasses against them*, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

Forgiveness is a one-way
offer of freedom for
someone who has sinned
against us.

Reconciliation, however,
requires both parties
have a desire to work
toward reconciliation.

God's posture toward
us is ALWAYS a wide
open door for
reconciliation, because He
has freely forgiven us.

"Fore-give" = give
freedom before it is
even asked for.

1 “*Do not judge* so that you will not
be judged.

Matthew 7:1–2

2 “For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you.

The Process of Forgiveness

1. Make sure you can see things clearly.

3 “Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?”

Matthew 7:3–5

4 “Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ and behold, the log is in your own eye?”

5 “You hypocrite, *first take the log out of your own eye*, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye.

First, we must know if
our vision is impaired.

Have we misjudged?

Viewed through offense
colored glasses?

Before we talk to
anyone else, we must
talk with the only one
with authority to judge
anyone.

10 The one who loves his brother
abides in the Light and ***there is no
cause for stumbling in him.***

1 John 2:10

Vision is impaired by:

- Keeping a record of
wrongs

Vision is impaired by:

- Making judgments/
ascribing motives

Vision is impaired by:

- Keeping a record of
wrongs

Vision is impaired by:

- Finding sin in personalities and preferences (being "trigger" happy)

11 A man's discretion makes him
slow to anger, And it is his *glory* to
overlook a transgression.

Proverbs 19:11

An unoffendable
Christian

is the best witness and
representative of the
Love of God there is.