

# GATEWAY INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS REPORT



## “A Passion for Souls”

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**FIERY LAVA FROM THE VOLCANO ERUPTION  
IN DR CONGO**

### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK...

Dear Beloved Friends and Supporters of GIMI,

Blessed summer greetings to you in the precious name of Jesus! I sincerely pray that you and your family continue to remain well and safe during these long days of the coronavirus pandemic. Back in March, I would never have believed that we would still be talking about this horrible plague, which God has allowed to get the entire world's attention and to remind us that we are not in control of our lives or the things going on around us in every part of the world. Truly, we are in need of a great spiritual revival all across America, and yes, in all of the rest of the world as well. We need to be on our knees praying for divine intervention because if there is not a new great spiritual awakening in our families, our churches, our communities, and yes, especially in the lives of our so-called political leaders here in America, our great American nation is going to die like so many other fallen countries of the world in past history. As I talked so much in our last newsletter, I have never seen

such vile wickedness in the lives of our so-called leaders. I won't mention any names this time, but all one has to do is to look at the news on a conservative station like Fox News each day. If you are a believer in Christ, you can't help but believe that these wicked, hypocritical leaders are hell-bent on destroying this great land. Satan has corrupted almost our entire governmental system in Washington, D.C., and he has done likewise in so many communities, counties, states, and cities here in America. Never would I have ever dreamed that before I die, I would see the terrible demise of the greatest nation that has ever existed on earth. I literally weep when I think about what our grandchildren, especially our two new beautiful great-grandsons and our brand new great-granddaughter, are going to face in this nation if Jesus doesn't return very soon. These precious children will be persecuted for their Christian faith, and no doubt, many believers will have to go to jail, while some may even have to die as martyrs for their faith if there is not a spiritual awakening.



**DAYLIGHT VIEW OF THE DEVASTATION  
FROM THE VOLCANO**

## **A Great Tribute To Two Wonderful Servants Of God: William And Florence Ssentumbwe!!!**

Dear beloved friends, I believe that most of you know already about the tragic loss of Rev. William and Florence Ssentumbwe. Back in May, these precious servants of God suddenly got sick, and within just a couple of weeks, they both went home to be with Jesus! This of course, was a glorious happening for William and Florence, but it has truly been a difficult time for the Ssentumbwe children. William and Florence have four children, John, Grace, Faith, and Rachel, living in Kampala, Uganda, while they have another son, James, living in Germany. The doctors didn't declare their death from Covid, but there seems to be much evidence that William and Florence did pass on because of this horrible disease. We are truly rejoicing that these great servants of God are now with Jesus, but we will need God's wisdom and grace to pick up from where William and Florence left off, in order to keep our GIMI Ministry going in Uganda and to keep on with the quest to win souls to Christ. I would ask you to really pray that God will give us His wisdom to continue on with our work in Uganda.

I want to share some good information about our work with William and Florence so that you might appreciate the legacy they left. My wife, Jo Anne, and I started working in Uganda 36 years ago (1986), while Brother Mickey Parrish and his wife, Alice, were heading up this African ministry. At that time, the ministry was entitled "The African Mission". Over these 36 years, we worked basically nonstop to win literally thousands to Christ in the prisons and schools of Uganda. During these 36 years, I had the privilege of training numbers of workers with seminars and conferences. All of these training episodes were conducted at our mission compound where William and Florence lived. They were blessed to live in our compound where we helped Mickey Parrish build our guesthouse, our training center, our GIMI Office, and another house where William and Florence have lived. Day by day, William and Florence kept everything going so that we could continue to reach souls in this beautiful country of Uganda. Truthfully, you might say that Uganda has been our African headquarters for our entire operation, even when we have been sharing the Gospel in many other African countries. William and Florence spearheaded the work for GIMI, and we developed a tremendous relationship with them, although we did have a few disagreements along the way. Yet, these two wonderful

servants of God always maintained a tremendous respect for my wife and me, and they were constantly doing their best to keep us safe. During these 36 years, we traveled hundreds and hundreds of miles with Brother William, and we shared the Gospel with thousands of souls in the prisons, schools, and churches. Only Jesus knows how many thousands of souls came to Christ and genuinely got saved. When we get to heaven to be with Jesus, William, and Florence, I believe we will get to know how many came to Christ, and hopefully, to meet every one of them following the Rapture of the Church, when all of the saints rise up in the air to meet our precious Lord and Savior. Again, I want to ask you to pray for their adult children, as we are praying that we will be able to go on with this great ministry working with these children. If we are able to do this, then, I know that William and Florence will be able to look down from heaven and be extremely happy because of what is being accomplished. If you don't think they will be able to see what is going on down here, then, just go to **Hebrews 12:1**, and you will see that we do have witnesses in heaven watching the work that is going on down here on the earth. **Well, I will close this section by simply saying a great big thank you to Rev. William Ssentumbwe and his faithful wife, Florence!**





## What About The Condition Of Our Churches?

***Due to the fact that so many churches are still struggling because of the Covid pandemic, and while we continue to work hard at getting the Gospel out to a lost world, I want to include an article, which I have shared with you before. I hope this article will encourage you, your pastor and your church family to really get busy helping to fulfill the Great Commission. Time is running out, and Jesus is soon coming again.***

As all of you know, I have been a preacher of the Gospel and a pastor for almost 55 years. And, may I say that I have had the privilege of knowing and hearing some of the greatest preachers that ever walked this earth—men like Dr. Junior Hill, Dr. Bill Stafford, Dr. Adrian Rogers, Dr. Homer Lindsay, Jr., Dr. Jerry Falwell, Dr. W.A. Criswell, Dr. R.G. Lee, Dr. Jerry Vines, Dr. David Gallamore, Dr. Stephen Olford, Dr. Paige Patterson, Dr. Kenneth Ridings, Dr. John Rymer, and many others just like these great servants of God. A lot of these precious men, whom we should continue to pay tribute to, are either sick, older, or have already gone on to heaven to be with the Jesus. But, please name one preacher of this generation who should be placed in the category of these mighty men of God. I sincerely don't know of one!

The churches of today are led by arrogant self-centered professing preachers who accept homosexuality like the present President J.D. Greer, of the Southern Baptist Convention, or are like Al Mohler who is a predominant Hyper-Calvinist negatively influencing millions of people across our land, and because of this false doctrine of election, many people are dying and going to hell because the churches don't see any need for great soul-winning and outreach programs. You see folks, if I were lazy, the main doctrine I would believe is predestination and election. We have huge amounts of preachers who would rather sit at home and enjoy their weekly salaries, their motorcycles, play golf, or go fishing for fish, while the lost world dies and goes to hell. But, why should we go after the lost if those predestined from before the creation of the world are just going on to hell regardless of whether we try to win them to Christ or not?

And now, we have numbers of so-called servants of God who walk to their pulpits/platforms every week wearing blue jeans with their legs showing through the holes, tight t-shirts with some kind of slogan on them,

wearing gym shoes or possibly sandals with their naked feet showing, and other most ridiculous outfits. These men and yes, some uncalled women who pretend to be great pastors, just make a mockery out of the place they stand in trying to teach a message with very little truth and certainly with no conviction of sin. These charlatans are able to draw in thousands of people with their entertainment, cute jokes, and their successful destinies jargon, but yet, these people only give the love side of the Gospel with no presentation for the need for repentance. Thousands and thousands of people are being deceived by the health and wealth gospel, with every message on grace, but rarely do they ever mention the ugliness of sin and the need for true repentance and righteous living. Dietrich Bonhoffer, a great preacher in Nazi Germany, said many years ago that when we try to avoid the requirements of the law and only talk about grace, then, grace becomes a law unto itself. Because of this great man's devotion to God, he was killed by Adolph Hitler's thugs. And yet, this is what we are seeing all around us today. We are hearing so much about grace, but we rarely hear anything about conviction, repentance, sanctification, and righteous living. And yet, there can be no intimacy with the living Christ without righteous living. Therefore, is it any wonder that our churches are now in the mess that they are in?

Also, I stand utterly amazed at how these so-called modern, cool preachers can take in millions and millions of dollars from their people or through their radio, TV, and Internet audiences, but they rarely spend much of anything proportionately on evangelism and world missions. For instance, when Joel Osteen's net worth is over 60 million dollars, his church budget is 90 million dollars annually, he and his church only spend \$1.2 million annually on world missions and outreach, then, I get extremely angry with righteous anger. Also, Joel lives in a 17,000 sq. ft. house that is worth 10.5 million dollars, and he makes no apology for living this way.

Folks, when I see this foolishness, I get very upset with these charlatans. I say this because just last week, GIMI sent \$1,000 to one of our prison preachers in Uganda to buy metal sheets so that he can build a two-bedroom house for him, his wife, and five children. I got extremely burdened about this when I saw a picture of him standing outside of his present hut with his family, where the door on his house is merely a cloth. Now, if I have offended some of you dear believers because I hate ungodly stewardship and regular neglect of God's people around the world, please forgive me. But truthfully, I am having difficulty accepting some of this terrible merchandising of the Gospel. Do you remember what Jesus said? **"Foxes**

*have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head."* (Luke 9:58) You see folks, Jesus came into this world in a stable, lived with peasants in Nazareth, worked from place to place all over Judea and Galilee with no regular house, died innocently on a cross, which should have been for Barabbas, and then was buried in a borrowed tomb. So, the Joel Osteens, the Steven Furticks, the Kenneth Copelands, the Benny Hinns, the Roger Grays, the Joyce Meyers, the T.J. Jakes, the Creflo Dollars, and scores of other charlatan preachers will have to answer to God for their flamboyant ministries and lifestyles while almost three billion lost people in the world have yet to hear the simple presentation of the plan of salvation and a Christ Who loved them so much that He died for them on the cross and arose from the dead to give every believer eternal life. While the majority of the people in the world are dying and going to hell without Christ, especially during this wretched time of the coronavirus, these false preachers are living better than kings and queens while showing almost no concern, except for a few pet projects.

### **Spiritual Leadership Seminar DVDs Are Still Available!**

I am not going to give you another long litany of my health problems as I have done before, but I do want to tell you that I did have the vocal cord surgery, and now, I am gradually getting the full use of my voice. I am hoping to begin to speak in some churches again, and with God's help, I really want to restart our radio broadcasts. Several months ago while my voice was so bad, with the help of Jesus, I completed my first series of training DVDs. I preached and taught from the book, which I wrote, entitled **"Finishing The Task God Has Given Us"**. This is a twelve session series with 16 DVDs, which I genuinely believe God will use to bless your life, inspire you, and help you learn a tremendous amount of Biblical truth that will better equip you for your service to our wonderful Lord and Savior. We now have this series available in an album form. For those of you here in America, if you have the funds, we are asking that you give Gateway International Missions, Inc. a gift of \$25.00. If you don't have this amount, we will give you the set because we want to help you in your service for Jesus. But, if you do have the \$25.00, you can help us help some African preachers and teachers who truthfully have almost nothing. So, if you

you would like to have a copy of this new set of teaching DVDs, please contact our GIMI Office at [office@gatewayinternationalmissions.com](mailto:office@gatewayinternationalmissions.com). Our office telephone number is 828-632-2344. I truly hope to hear from you very soon to request these DVDs, which I spent many hours preparing, even with my bad vocal cord! I truly want to help all of you who want to help yourselves!

### **My Latest Book Is Still Available!**

Months and months ago, I began writing a brand new book. I know that most of you know just how much I love to write, and therefore, another new book wouldn't demand much interest in this day when we are bombarded with new books from everywhere. But this book is quite the exception because of the subject matter. Now, I in no way want to offend anyone by my new book, but because of the horrible racial and class problems we are now having in our country, some of you may get angry with this book when you read it. But, if you do get angry, then the proposition of the book will truly be borne out by your offense and anger.

For years and years I have looked for some great theologian to exegete the story of Noah and his three sons, which is found in Genesis 9 and 10. I have longed for someone who would interpret these verses without a preconceived bias or without a fear of political and racial correctness enough to get to the bottom of the truth. But folks, because of fear and bias, I have never found anyone who would make this attempt. But, many months ago as I mentioned, I prayerfully started this great project at the risk of being misunderstood by some and even hated by others. But now, I have brought this project to a conclusion.

In this book which is entitled, **"The Willful Ignorance and Blatant Denial of the Curse of Ham"**, I have courageously jumped in "over my head" to try to interpret this great story which happened after Noah came out of the ark following the flood, planted a vineyard, and raised grapes. Then, when the grapes ripened, he took them and made wine, got dastardly drunk, lay down in his bed uncovered, and then opened himself up to a shameful and derogatory action by his son, Ham, who walked into Noah's tent and found him lying there naked. With a certain amount of glee, Ham ran outside and told Shem and Japheth, who then, took a covering and backed guardedly into Noah's tent and covered up his shamefulness. As a result of this horrible event, Noah later placed a horrible curse upon Ham, but



more so, upon his grandson called Canaan.

Folks, from these three sons of Noah have come the three main races of the world, along with many mixed races as well. The truth of this story cannot be denied with any credibility, but only by willful ignorance trying to cover up the truth and by blatantly denying the truth of this terrible event. So, I have tried to be objective, but yet, very thorough and truthful about this passage of Scripture. I do want to say that these two chapters in Genesis are just as much a part of the inspired Word of God as is **John 3:16**. One cannot believe that **John 3:16** is the Word of God, while at the same time disbelieving that the account of Noah and his sons is just a story that has been told from one generation to another.

I would like to offer you a copy of this latest book for a gift of \$25.00 to GIMI. If you are courageous, just contact our GIMI Office at the email address or phone number that I gave to you in the previous discussion of my new DVD series. We will send you the book just as soon as possible!

In the King's service,

*Dr. Stan Frye*  
President of GIMI  
**John 4:35**





# CAMEROON

A man in a striped shirt stands behind a large pile of gifts, including bags of rice, boxes of instant noodles, and other food items.

**PASTOR EMMANUEL  
WITH GIFTS FOR PRISONERS**

A large metal bowl filled with white rice sits on a wooden table, surrounded by several smaller bowls containing beans and other food items.

**RICE AND BEANS  
FOR PRISONERS**

A large pile of humanitarian aid, including bags of rice, boxes of instant noodles, and other food items, is shown in a room with a corrugated metal roof.

**LOTS OF HUMANITARIAN AID FROM GIMI  
FOR PRISONERS**

A large group of men, many shirtless, are gathered in a courtyard, raising their hands in prayer. Some are wearing orange shirts, and there are boxes of instant noodles in the background.

**A LARGE GROUP OF PRISONERS IN CAMEROON PRAYING TO RECEIVE JESUS**



# DR CONGO



**INDIGENT MOTHERS AND CHILDREN  
RECEIVING THE GOSPEL MESSAGE**



**PASTOR ISRAEL SHARING FOOD WITH DIS-  
PLACED MOTHERS AND CHILDREN**



**AN OUTDOOR MARKET SET UP IN A CHURCH  
YARD IN WAKE OF THE VOLCANO**



**PASTOR ROBERT SHARING CHRIST WITH REF-  
UGEES FROM THE VOLCANO**



**PASTOR ISRAEL PREACHING IN A LARGE OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE OF REFUGEES**



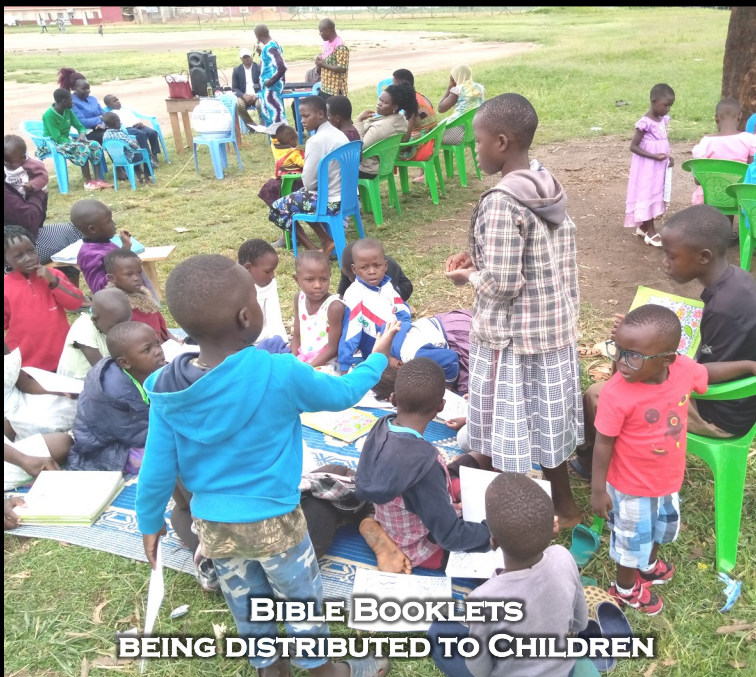
# UGANDA



**OUR DEAR BROTHER WILLIAM  
PREACHING TO PRISONERS IN THE PAST**



**GIMI STAFF MEMBERS WEARING MEMORIAL  
SHIRTS IN HONOR OF BROTHER WILLIAM**

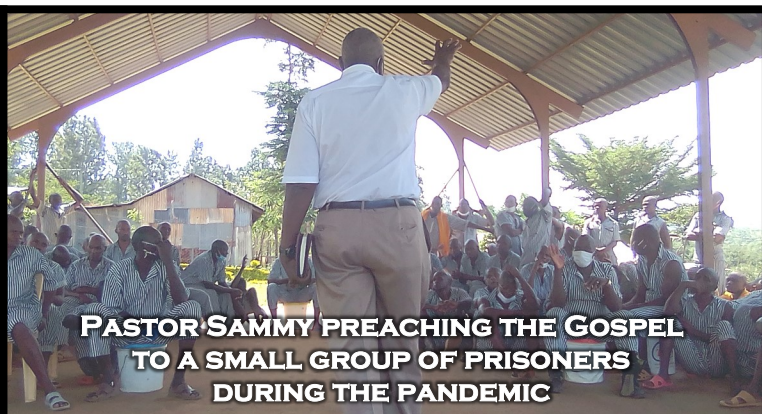


**BIBLE BOOKLETS  
BEING DISTRIBUTED TO CHILDREN**



**PASTOR GERALD KIBUULE GIVING BIBLE BOOKLETS TO PRISONERS**





## *Loving Gifts Given in Honor and Memory of Others*

### **IN HONOR**

Willie Little

Dr. Stan & Jo Anne Frye

Pastor Bob & Brenda Ferguson

John Van Hyning

Randy & Linda Scott

Patsy Little

Barbara Cole

Kenneth & Janet Hill

Richard & Carol Thomas

Hope Hamilton

### **IN MEMORY**

Spurgeon Wyatt

Clate Miller

Randall Wood

Susan Meade

Marie McMahan

Pastor John Powell

Randy Scott

William & Florence Ssentumbwe

Annie Wyatt

Nancy Miller

Debra Wood

Larry & Linda Bradshaw

Larry & Linda Bradshaw

Richard & Carol Thomas

Hope Hamilton

Kathy Hedrick



**The Catastrophic Consequences  
Of A  
Bible Doctrine  
That Has Been Falsely Believed And Falsely Taught!  
"The Misunderstood Teaching About Forgiveness"**



**By: Dr. Stan Frye**

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## Introduction

Today as I begin this writing project, I want you the reader to know that you may not agree with the main proposition or thesis of this booklet. But regardless of whether you do agree or not, I am going to still love you, and I will still be your friend and pray for you. In spite of the present radical revolution in our American nation, we should be able to get along with and love those who don't agree with us, especially if we are genuinely saved and in the family of God. But, even if you don't agree with the proposition of this booklet, please take the time to really study the subject matter and see what God might be trying to show you.

At the time of this writing, I am somewhat sick and a little down following a lifetime of trying to minister to and help people all over this globe; especially here in America and in Africa where my wife and I have focused on our work for over 36 years. During these 55 plus years of ministry, there have really been a lot of unanswered questions. And truthfully, the older I get, the less I seem to know. But there is one thing that has really bothered me down through the years of ministry, and that is why there is so much confusion and falsehood about the subject of forgiveness from our wonderful Savior and Lord, and about how we as believers in the church body should deal with forgiveness in relationship to those who wrong us and never seem to admit any wrong, or ever ask any forgiveness.

To many people, this subject matter probably never, or at least rarely, every comes up between two people, or even in church group gatherings. But during my many years of pastoring eleven churches, doing full-time evangelism work throughout 33 states in America, and working in Africa and several other countries, I have seen many, many things about so-called forgiveness, and the importance of forgiving others who wrong us, but they never admit any wrong or ask our forgiveness. In addition, during my pastoral years, I could not possibly tell you how many church skirmishes, arguments, and devilish divisions I have seen in my churches, in other churches, and even between supposedly good Christian people who claim the name of Christ. In reality, they act like Satan when it comes to admission of wrong or in begging for forgiveness from those they have wronged. But instead, I have seen probably hundreds of people come and go in the churches because of their unforgiveness or bitterness toward other people within the fellowship of believers. So, they cause problems in one church, raise a terrible ruckus usually with the pastor, staff, or other church leaders, and then, instead of getting right with their brothers and sisters and even with God, they go away from one fellowship to another where they once again behave and conduct themselves just as meanly as they did in the church they left. And the truth about this is that most of the pastors and church people in the churches where they cause so much trouble never attempt to hold these troublemakers accountable, and they certainly don't want to carry out any discipline of these hirelings. But then, instead of dealing with the issues that caused these troublemakers to get by with almost coldblooded murder, the pastor or other church leaders just say, "Well, these hirelings are now gone, so, let's just forgive them and go on with our business and try to rebound from these horrible situations as much as we possibly can. " But folks, the truth is that using forgiveness as a substitute for discipline and accountability just contributes to the continuing destruction of lives, relationships, churches, and even the proclamation of the Gospel in fulfillment of the Great Commission. So therefore, the main purpose or the thesis behind this small writing project is to simply expose some of the falsehoods and lies that are being taught today about forgiveness almost everywhere in almost every church or group of believers. Thus, let's get started with the content of this project, and I pray that when you have read this booklet that you might have had some illumination of this forbidden subject matter!

# “SOME REASONS FOR THIS STUDY”

## Introduction

I suppose we need to begin this chapter by telling you that today we probably live in one of the most skeptical times in the history of America, when it comes to believing what the Bible teaches. In **Galatians 4:16**, the Apostle Paul said these words to the Galatian churches. He said, **"Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?"** The fact is that we are living in a time when people will believe a lie before they will the truth. And, this is exactly what Paul warned the Thessalonian church about when he said, **"And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they might all be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."** (**II Thess. 2:11-12**) In these two verses Paul is telling these believers in Thessalonica that after the Rapture of the Church from this earth, millions of people will be left behind, and rather than being able to repent if they have heard the message of salvation before the Rapture, God will give them strong delusion and they will be damned forever because they had rather believe a lie as the truth.

Folks, this is where we are in the world today. We have millions of people here in America, and even more in the rest of the world where people are more forthright to believe the lies of false cults, witchcraft, twisted theology, and other horrible hell-consigning doctrines than they are to believe the truth. Therefore, I sincerely believe that this is what has happened when it comes to the meaning of forgiveness. These twisted concepts about forgiveness have brought forth falsehoods, which require that people forgive the most wicked and damnable lies about the necessary requirement for forgiveness. These people who have taught these lies may mean well, but they have asked believers to forgive the most horrible things people have done to them without the perpetrators ever admitting wrong or coming to the individual sinned against to repent and apologize. Thus, we have pastors, church leaders, and many individual Christians telling their friends that they have a Biblical imperative to forgive the most horrible actions of others without there ever being an admission of wrong or confession of sin. **I am going to tell you emphatically that I don't believe that this falsehood is Biblically true or has ever been required by the Word of God, if there is no admission of wrong by the perpetrators.** And because of this false teaching, many good Christians have spent their entire lives trying so hard to forgive those that God has said we should avoid or walk on the opposite side of the street from. Please notice something else Paul the Apostle gives us in two of his passages of Scripture. First, please notice carefully these words in **Romans 16:17-18**, **"Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them, which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine, which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple."** The word for "mark" used here by Paul means, "watch out for these kind of people," and very literally, avoid or walk on the other side of the street from these deceptive individuals.

Another precious passage of Scripture given to us by Paul is found in **Philippians 3:17-19**, where it says, **"Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an example. (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things."** In these verses, Paul reverses the order and tells the believers in Philippi that they should be marked by their dedication and loyalty to Christ, just following the example Paul had set for them. Then Paul, with much candor, fearlessly tells the Philippians that those who teach false doctrine are only living to satisfy their own bellies and they eventually will be damned and lost forever.

Now, I don't mean to say that every person who has taught that we must forgive someone when they have hurt us without their admission of guilt or repentance of the wrong they have done are lost and on their way to hell. But, I am saying that teaching this false doctrine about forgiveness may be coming from doctrinal illiteracy, or just complete ignorance about this matter, because this false interpretation has just been passed on from one Christian to another.

So, let me now get into some of the reasons why I believe God has distinctly spoken to my heart about writing on this subject matter to hopefully get thousands of people out from under their guilt load, because they have been indoctrinated with false doctrine or teaching.

## **I. THE FIRST REASON FOR THIS FALSE TEACHING ABOUT FORGIVENESS IS BECAUSE PEOPLE MISINTERPRET WHAT JESUS SAID FROM THE CROSS.**

While Jesus was hanging on the cross dying for the sins of the entire world, He cried out seven times. One of those cries was a prayer to God the Father for Him to forgive those who were crucifying Him. Notice this verse in **Luke 23:34**, "**Then said Jesus, 'Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted His raiment, and cast lots.'**" In this saying from the cross, it might be easy to get the idea that Jesus was asking God to forgive or absolve the sins of all those that were crucifying Him. But, this cannot possibly be true. Why? Because when people get saved and cry out for forgiveness, they must believe He was the Christ, that He died and then arose from the dead. Each individual must exercise faith in the finished product of what Jesus did for all people. And then, there must be repentance and the turning away from sin in order to get genuinely saved. Thus, to say that Jesus was forgiving the sins of all these individuals, there has to be two ways to be saved—and we know this is not true at all.

So, what did Jesus mean when He asked God the Father to forgive the sin of those crucifying Him? I believe strongly that what Jesus was asking God the Father was, "Father, please don't hold these people who are crucifying me any more responsible for this dastardly deed than all other men and women who will ever live on the earth, because what they are doing is out of complete ignorance. Therefore, the sin out of ignorance is not held accountable, and it doesn't demand repentance from the individuals committing the sin. Thus my friends, because Jesus was simply asking God the Father to forgive those who were guilty of crucifying Him, how on earth can we possibly say that we should forgive others who never admit any wrong or confess their sins? We should not, and if we do, we are not following the example of Jesus.

Well now, some of you might say, "But what about what Jesus said in the Model Prayer in the Sermon on the Mount?" Just read the content of the following verses found in **Matthew 6:14-15**, "**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.**" These verses may have been misinterpreted more than any other verses in the entire Bible. We must stop and understand that Jesus is teaching this truth to believers, including His disciples. He was not talking to lost people, for if He would have been, then we could say to lost people, "If you have any hatred in your hearts toward others, you must repent of this individual sin before you can be saved." This would be teaching that getting saved requires more than repenting of individual sin. In other words, there must be works to right the wrong that a lost person might have toward someone. Therefore, we must understand that Jesus was addressing believers with this Sermon on the Mount.

So, what was Jesus meaning when He said, "If you don't forgive others for the wrong they do unto you, then, Jesus will not forgive your sins as a believer." This truth is later stated in **Matthew 18:21-35**, when Peter comes to Jesus and asks Him how many times did he have to forgive those who wronged him, and then came to ask for forgiveness. Peter doesn't mention the fact about how many times he should forgive someone who came to him and repented of wrong done. This is truly what Jesus is teaching because in the remainder of these verses, our Lord gives a story of an unprofitable servant who was brought for accountability because he could not pay what he owed. He begged for forgiveness and then went and refused to forgive another man who owed him some money. The truth here that Jesus was trying to get across to the people was that if there is no forgiveness of those who have wronged us, and then, come and repented of their sin or wrong toward us, then, Jesus promises to not forgive those who fail to forgive those who wrong us without any admission of wrong. We must understand that Jesus is here talking about believers who are required to forgive others who wrong them, and then, come and admit wrong and repent of their sins.

Therefore, my beloved friends, when Jesus cried out, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.", these people were not saved and given eternal life. Each one of them had to get personally saved just like everyone has since that very day. Jesus was not giving generic salvation to those standing before the cross that day, nor to everyone since then. Jesus was just simply stating, "Father, don't lay this sin to their account, because they are doing this horrible deed out of ignorance."



## II. THE SECOND REASON FOR THIS FALSE TEACHING IS BECAUSE PEOPLE MISINTERPRET THE SCRIPTURE TAUGHT BY JESUS IN MATTHEW 18:21-35 ABOUT FORGIVENESS.

For many years I have heard this precious passage of Scripture misinterpreted time after time by those who try to force us to forgive every person who has wronged us, regardless of whether the person doing the wrong admits it and then repents of this terrible act. Oh yes, my friends, we can't hold on to bitterness or resentment or even retaliate toward those who have wronged us, if we are to have peace with God. But, there is truly a difference in asking God to release us from the bondage of bitterness and hatred toward one who has willfully wronged us and forgiveness of one who doesn't repent or admit any wrong. If we totally and completely forgive the wrong without there being repentance, then we enable that wicked person to continue his or her wicked hurting of others without accountability. To understand this, let's take a closer look at the story of Peter's encounter with Jesus about forgiveness as it is found here in **Matthew 18:21-35**.

This passage begins in verse 21 and 22 with the following words. **"Then came Peter to Him, and said, Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, until seven times: but until seventy times seven."** It is very obvious to me that when Peter came to Jesus to ask Him about this forgiveness, there must have been an incident between Peter and another brother that had precipitated this event. In order to understand these verses, we need to know that Peter did not mention that the brother who had hurt him must have hurt him many times. And so, the brother kept sinning against Peter, and then, each time he would come back to Peter and ask him to forgive him again. These facts are not completely stated here, but they surely are implied. If this weren't so, then why would Peter mention the number of times that he had to decide to forgive this individual?

It is very obvious that when Peter came to ask Jesus this question, he was trying to be magnanimous because he knew that the Rabbinical Law required a person to forgive up to only three times. So, Peter decided that he would go a little further and forgive seven times. As usual, Peter was forthright, and he wanted praise for being magnanimous. But instead of accepting Peter's limited times for forgiveness, Jesus told him that he must forgive seventy times seven, or 490 times. This number truly implies that our times of forgiveness could not be limited to any number. Instead, as the parable of the man who owed the king much money was forgiven much by the king when he went humbly to the king and asked for forgiveness of his debt, Jesus told Peter that he must be willing to forgive those who wronged him when they came humbly to ask for forgiveness. The point I am making is that Jesus did not illustrate the right act of forgiveness unless the one who did the wrong came with humility and asked for forgiveness. In other words, in order to rightly forgive people who hurt or wrong us, they must come and beg for forgiveness. In doing this, these people would have to admit wrong and then repent of the sin. But, if they refuse to admit their wrong and repent, the only thing we need to do is to ask Christ to remove the bondage of bitterness and resentment that we might have.

Now, some of you super-spiritual people might be saying, "But didn't Jesus forgive us of our sin unconditionally?" Yes, He did offer forgiveness to us unconditionally, but we can't experience this forgiveness unless we come to Him, confess our sins, and by faith put our trust in His completed work at Calvary. So, there can be no forgiveness for anyone without confession of wrong and then repentance. Therefore, doesn't it make sense that if Jesus Himself requires confession of wrong and repentance before we are forgiven of our sins, why would He demand that we forgive those who wrong us, unless they come and confess the wrong they have done and show evidence of humble repentance. Therefore, I believe it is a complete misinterpretation of Jesus' words to Peter, if we think that Jesus told Peter to just forgive all those who wronged him. Once more, let me say that our forgiveness of others who have hurt us tremendously is not required unless they come to us, admit the hurt they have caused, and then, show true evidence of repentance. If they do this, then our forgiveness should be without limit. Yes, as I previously stated, "We might have to ask Christ to release us from the bondage of bitterness and resentment in order for us to go on without our lives, but we are not commanded to forgive the unforgiveable." If we do this over and over, these trouble making people who hurt others will be enabled by our lack of accountability for the wrong they have done. Then, they will just keep going on and on hurting people in other churches, in other families, in other Life Groups, and in many other places. Without accountability down here by

loving friends, we will put off mentally the truth that every one as a believer will one day be held accountable at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

Another thing I want to add, while trying to understand this passage of Scripture, is that the servant who was forgiven by the king for the debt he owed, soon thereafter, had one of his servants or workers who owed him some money come to ask for forgiveness for the money he owed. But, after the first servant had been forgiven of his debt, he adamantly refused to forgive his servant who also came in humility and repented of his negligence. Let me give you the words of Jesus after all the servants came and told the king how utterly unforgiving the first servant was. Please never forget these words given by our Lord.

**"So, when his fellow-servants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done. Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant. I forgave thee all thy debt, because thou desiredst me; Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellow-servant, even as I had pity on thee? And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him. So, likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not everyone his brother their trespasses. (Matthew 18:31-35)**

### **III. THE THIRD REASON FOR THIS FALSE TEACHING IS BECAUSE PEOPLE MISINTERPRET THE VERSES FOUND IN ACTS 7:54-60 WHERE STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH, SPOKE WORDS ON FORGIVENESS.**

The story of Stephen's being the first martyr of the Christian faith is a tremendous story that is probably neglected as much as any distinguishable passage in the entire Bible. Stephen had been selected as one of the first deacons of the early church. But, it is very obvious that he was more than just a deacon. He was in fact a great evangelist who declared the truth of God's Word going all the way back to the beginning of time, and then, up through the Exodus when Moses led the children of Israel out of Egypt. And so, when Stephen proclaimed the truth in Jerusalem, the religious hypocrites got extremely angry and began to stone this faithful servant of God. Then, as Stephen was dying, he looked up into the open heavens where Jesus got up from His throne to welcome Stephen home. And then, Stephen cried out, **"Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep."** The last thing Stephen said before dying was, "Lord don't hold this sin to the account of the people." This was a very serious thing he asked of God, because he knew that these religious leaders were hypocrites who were acting out of their ignorance. And, as it is so often, the good people get hurt or killed, while the wicked survive. This often seems so unfair, but we can take some consolation in the fact that we as God's people do win in the end, and the wicked will forever be judged in the literal fires of a real hell. Now, let me give you the following verses that describe Stephen's untimely death because of the great sermon he preached.

***"When they heard these things, (the sermon by Stephen), they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth. But, he being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God. And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God. Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, and cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul (later to become Paul). And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And, when he had said this, he fell asleep."* (Acts 7:54-60)**

In this text we find the very last statement of Stephen asking God to not find these people who were killing him guilty of this murder. Do you know why he was saying this? He was saying that they should not be held accountable because they were committing the sin out of spiritual ignorance. This is simply another account of the words of Jesus from the cross, which we studied earlier when He cried, ***"Father, forgive them for they know not what they do."*** But, I do not believe that Stephen was forgiving these people for what they were doing to him, simply because there was no admission of wrong or any confession of sin by these evil religious people. Stephen was just simply acknowledging the spiritual ignorance of the people. But, we must know that Stephen was going to heaven without bitterness or resentment in his heart. And, this is the way we should approach the matter when people hurt us and never admit any wrong or confess their sins with a humble apology. We don't have to forgive them unless they repent, but we must ask God for help in being released from bitterness or resentment toward them so that we can go on with our Christian lives and ministries. And, when we treat these hurtful people with love and accountability,

we are not enabling them to go on hurting others.

#### **IV. THE FOURTH REASON FOR THIS FALSE TEACHING IS BECAUSE OF THE MISINTERPRETATION OF LUKE 6:37 IN THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT WHERE JESUS ADMONISHED THE PEOPLE TO FORGIVE OTHERS.**

Let me tell you once more that this is another passage of Scripture where people twist the meaning to show just how spiritual we should be when people have wronged or hurt us. But, when a person interprets this short verse of Scripture with the meaning that Christ won't forgive us unless we forgive every one who sins against us is based upon a misunderstood presumption. Yes, we are to always be open to forgive anyone who hurts or sins against us, if they come to us, admit their wrong, repent of their sins, and then, humbly apologize for the hurt they have caused. So, let me give you this verse in writing so that we can look at it a little closer.

***"Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven."* (Luke 6:37)** I would ask every one of you reading this material to see what Jesus was really saying here. He was telling the disciples and the large crowd on the mountain that if we assume the role of God and offer judgment upon others with our improper and limited knowledge of all circumstances, we are asking for reciprocal judgment from others and probably from our Lord, because only He has the right to rightfully judge anyone.

Then too, I would like to add a thought from Dr. John MacArthur's commentary on the Gospel of Luke about this verse. Please pay much attention to this next statement. "What this command does forbid is harsh, critical, compassionless, vengeful condemnation of one's enemies as if one was vested with final judgment power."<sup>1</sup> As I just stated earlier, because we have limited understanding of anyone else, including ourselves, we therefore, must not assume God's role in bringing final judgment upon every person.

But, I would like to tell you that Dr. John MacArthur makes another statement on the next page of his commentary on Luke that I just believe is a lie or not true. Please read this statement, "...Believers are to forgive their enemies no matter how hostile they may be."<sup>2</sup> I do not believe that we as God's children are required to forgive those who have hurt or sinned against us with no admission of wrong or any act of repentance or by making a humble apology. To believe this is to say, that God's forgiveness of our sins as believers is based upon our actions or works is not true. For instance, most people consider King David who wrote much of the Book of Psalms stated in many places that he prayed for the judgment of God upon his enemies. Read the following words from **Psalm 28:4-5**, ***"Give them according to their deeds, and according to the wickedness of their endeavors: give them after the work of their hands; render to them their desert. Because they regard not the works of the Lord, nor the operation of His hands, He shall destroy them, and not build them up."*** So, my beloved friends, if David, "a man after God's own heart", could pray for the destruction of those who had hurt him with no admission of guilt, then, do you think that God is saying that we have to forgive every evil thing that has been done to us without exception. Well, I don't believe this is what Jesus is saying here in Luke. Therefore, going back to the context of what I said earlier in this writing project about the other misinterpreted passages of Scripture, there is no doubt whatsoever in my mind that what is implied in this text is that if people commit sin against us and then come, admit wrong, confess their sin, repent, and humbly beg for forgiveness, then yes, we will not be forgiven of the sins we commit as believers if we don't forgive the repentant people who have hurt us.

Another passage of Scripture, which talks about this kind of forgiveness is found in **Mark 11:25-26**. Please pay attention to these verses. ***"And when you 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."***

I would like to tell you once more that I truly do not believe that God's forgiveness for the sins of a child of God is conditional and based upon our forgiveness of others who have wronged us, but never admitted any wrong. I sincerely believe that even this verse also implies that the command for us to forgive those who have wronged us does not teach that we must forgive sinful people who hurt us with never any admission of wrong. Oh yes, we must ask God to release us from any bitterness or from any revengeful action. But, just like David prayed over and over, it is quite all right for us to pray that God might bring chastisement or judgment upon those who wrong us with no confession of wrong. Please read the following verses where once again, we see David asking for God to judge

<sup>1</sup> John MacArthur's Commentary on The Gospel of Luke, Moody Press, page 109.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid, page 110.



those who have willfully wronged him. **Psalm 59:10-15, "The God of my mercy shall prevent me: God shall let me see my desire upon my enemies. Slay them not, lest my people forget: scatter them by thy power; and bring them down, O Lord our shield. For the sin of their mouth and the words of their lips let them even be taken in their pride: and for cursing and lying, which they speak. Consume them in wrath, consume them that they may not be: and let them know that God ruleth in Jacob unto the ends of the earth. And at evening let them return; and let them make a noise like a dog, and go round about the city. Let them wander up and down for meat, and grudge if they be not satisfied."**

Therefore, my beloved friends, no one will ever convince me that we as believers are never to desire or pray for God to bring evil upon those who hurt and harm us with no repentance. But, if they do admit wrong, repent of their sins, and humbly apologize, then we have a mandate from Jesus to forgive them!

## **V. THE FIFTH REASON FOR THIS FALSE TEACHING IS BECAUSE SO MUCH PRESSURE IS PUT ON BELIEVERS FROM THE PULPITS AND THE PEWS ABOUT FORGIVING OTHERS REGARDLESS OF WHAT THEY HAVE DONE!**

As I begin this point in our study, I would like to share with you that for over 46 years I have worked in prisons sharing the Gospel message with literally thousands of people here in America, in the Philippines, and most of all, in Africa. During these 46 plus years of ministry, I have always believed that any person in his or her right mind can be forgiven of any and every sin they have ever committed, if they will admit their wrong, repent of these sins, and then, confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Master of their lives. Of course, if these inmates have harmed or hurt people, they indeed may have to spend many years in prison, even after getting truly saved, after they have repented of their sins and asked Jesus to forgive them. But yet, I do believe that any person in his or right mind can repent and be forgiven, as I stated a few lines back in this paragraph. Why, for over seven years of my prison ministry, I worked alongside of some really good Christian friends in Florida State Prison. During those years, I spent many mornings talking with Ted Bundy and sharing the love of Christ with him. I sincerely believe that Ted indeed got saved, as it was affirmed by Dr. James Dobson. Ultimately, Ted Bundy was executed in the Florida State electric chair, but, I expect to one day find him in heaven. Now, the reason I have brought this up is to convince you that I do believe that the most vile and wicked persons on earth can be forgiven by our Lord if these people will confess their wrong, repent of their sins, and acknowledge Jesus as Lord and Master of their lives. But, to really emphasize this fourth point in this study, if people don't repent before God of their sins, they cannot be forgiven. And then, if those people who viciously hate and hurt other believers for whatever reason don't admit their wrong and humbly apologize to the hurt and wronged people, these hurt and wronged people do not have a mandate from God or His word, to overlook the sins of these vile people, and forgive their sins. Instead, as I have stated several times in this study, the hurt and wronged people might have to ask God to release them from their bitterness or resentment. This doesn't mean that they have to forgive the sins of these evil people, if there is no admission of sin followed by repentance. Thus, because of the truth that I have stated again in this paragraph, I will move on to the truth shown in point four, which is contributing so much to the false teaching about how we are to forgive every one regardless of what they have done to us.

Truly, the pressure from the pulpits and pews to forgive regardless of whether a vile wicked person admits wrong, repents, and then, humbly apologizes to the wronged or hurt people, is causing major consternation, confusion, guilt, and even spiritual discouragement to the point that many people have quit their church attendance and their Christian service because of these false teachings about forgiveness. And then, while these hurt people who have done nothing wrong because they have not forgiven the people who have hurt them, the guilty persons who have caused this mess are going from one church to another living as if they are perfect, and they do nothing but bring further heartaches to many new people in the new places where they go. May I tell you that this is extremely wrong, and no preacher, no church leader, and no personal believer should be demanding forgiveness of the people who have admitted no wrong, have not confessed their sins, and, they have never apologized to the hurt people.

## **VI. THE SIXTH REASON FOR THIS FALSE TEACHING IS BECAUSE PEOPLE WANT FORGIVENESS WITHOUT REPENTANCE BECAUSE THEY FEAR EXPOSURE AND EMBARRASSMENT."**

Having dealt with and ministered to literally thousands of people down through my 55 years of ministry, I believe that I can say with truthfulness and integrity that one of the reasons that this false teaching about forgiveness is happening is because scores of people who have wronged and hurt others in the body of Christ are so full of themselves with pride and ego that they just don't want to ever admit any wrong whatsoever. They do this because they know that if they truly admit the hurting of others, they will probably have to show some humility, stop their damnable pride and ego-centric behavior, and without a doubt, they will have to stop their lifestyle of being the big man or woman who always knows everything, while others are considered ignorant, uninformed, and lacking of common sense. In addition, these people don't want to get right with God or the people they have wronged, simply because they are so accustomed to going from place to place with their vile behavior without any accountability.

While talking about unaccountability, let me tell you that at the time of this writing I have really been going through a period of health problems. This has been going on for several months, but no doctor seems to understand anything I am experiencing, and truthfully, even my family doctor of many years doesn't seem to give a flip about how serious my illnesses are at this time. And yes, when I wrote him a couple of emails just bearing my soul about how I felt about his negligence in really trying to help me, he wrote me back somewhat angry because he didn't like the fact that I was just simply trying to hold him accountable. But, even as I type today on this computer, I am no better, and I am facing more serious tests this coming week in another city and in another hospital. The main reason for his "ping ponging" me from one doctor to another is because my doctor wants to just go on putting band aids on my serious problems, getting paid big bucks, but never wanting people to expose him for his ineptitude and concern. So, this is exactly why so many people who call themselves Christians, which my doctor does, just don't want to admit any wrong, because if they do, they will be exposed and probably embarrassed before other people. And truthfully, this is why all doctors require us to sign our literal lives away before they will do any procedure, any surgery, and any serious investigation, unless they are completely free from possible accountability, and especially from any legal liability. Therefore, they see themselves as gods who know everything, but all they want to do is to continue to give pills to supposedly help you, while neglecting true help because they don't want to be exposed.

Well, this is enough right now about my medical problems and these incompetent doctors. However, these thoughts came to me just when I was trying so hard to adequately explain why people push us believers to quickly forgive those who have wronged us, even when there is never an admission of guilt or any repentance. I must tell you that when doctors treat people the way many precious people and I have been treated, I find no Biblical mandate to forgive these people. Now, if this sounds like I have lost my mind, just understand our entire family has been almost destroyed by incompetent doctors. And yes, I have had to bury people who were killed by physicians' negligence or just plain stupid mistakes. Hear this again, they are never held accountable. And, all of these lying lawyers who come on TV and brag about how they stand up for those who have been injured or made sick by the medical profession or bad medicine are just thugs who will only take a case on behalf of an injured person, if they know from the beginning that the case is a "no-brainer" or if they don't have to work hard to win a law suit, but only wait to receive their huge commission. And then, if a doctor is held accountable, most of the doctors in the area will never see this patient again—especially, if he or she has won the law suit.

I would like to add that when someone preaches forgiveness without admission of guilt by the guilty party or if the guilty party shows no intent to repent, this preaching is truly "Easy Believeism", which is rotten to the core! But yet, this is what we are seeing all over America and in the entire world today. We see it on the Internet, on TV, in thousands of churches. We hear this horrible false teaching on the hundreds of radio broadcasts all over the world. I want to scream, ***"If Jesus demands admission of sin, repentance, confession of our sins, and humble submission to Him as Lord and Savior in order for us to receive salvation, why would He not require the same procedure for extending forgiveness to others?"*** Truly, God doesn't have a double-standard for forgiveness!



## Conclusion

Well, dear friends, by now you may be so upset with me that you may have said, "Please stop it Pastor Stan Frye. I just can't take it anymore." You may believe that as an old senior pastor, I have truly lost my decaying mind. If this is true, I beg your forgiveness! But, you will never convince me that God does indeed have a double-standard for forgiving us by requiring admission of sin, humble repentance for the sin we commit, while at the same time asking us to forgive those who hurt us without these perpetrators ever admitting any wrong, or begging for forgiveness. I just simply can't believe that God would require us to look over the sins of blatant people who, because of their egocentric behavior, pretend to never do anything wrong or even offend anyone. I want to say what I said earlier in this material, "If we forgive people who have hurt us and never admit any wrong nor repent of what they have done, then we will be surely guilty of helping these professing believers with evil behavior to just go on from one place to another, hurting people and causing disasters wherever they go. The time has come that we must hold these people accountable here on this earth, especially in our churches, and as we hold them accountable, we must do so reminding them of the day out in the future when Jesus will hold every true believer accountable at the Judgment Seat of Christ. But also, we need to warn them that if they can hurt people with no regrets or admission of wrong, then they probably just have religion without a relationship with Christ. Therefore, they will be judged at the Great White Throne and then cast into hell fire and be there forever. I would say that we better carry out forgiveness in the way that Jesus teaches, or we are going to be truly ashamed at the Bema Seat of Christ!



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