

I. Debts and Trespasses (see Luke 11:4)

II. To put faith in Christ is to receive forgiveness.

- A. Jesus poured out his blood for the forgiveness of our sins (Matthew 26:28) – this is the *necessary cost* of forgiveness (Hebrews 9:22)
- B. Jesus was put to death for our trespasses and the debt we owe (Romans 4:25; Ephesians 1:7; 2:1, 4-6; Colossians 2:13-15)
- C. Jesus forgave sins wherever he went – it was a higher priority to him than healing! (Matthew 9:1-6)
- D. Jesus taught his disciples to forgive as well (Luke 6:37)
- E. The apostles preached forgiveness of sins to all nations *in the name of Jesus* (Luke 24:47; John 20:23; Acts 2:38; 5:31; 10:43; 13:38; 26:18)
- F. We are called to continual repentance of our sin, and promised continual forgiveness when we do (1 John 1:9)

III. Forgiving others is an absolutely non-optional part of obeying Christ.

- A. How often shall I forgive? (Matthew 18:21-22)
- B. The parable of the unforgiving servant (Matthew 18:23-35)
- C. Doormat Syndrome
- D. Forgiving others ...
- E. Forgiving others is *not* a tool to get what you want.
- F. Forgiving the unforgiveable. (see Luke 23:34)
- G. Bitterness and the Devil (see Ephesians 4:26-27, 31-32)
- H. The revolution of forgiveness.

IV. Reconciliation of things in heaven or in earth. (see 2 Corinthians 5:19; Colossians 1:15-20)

- A. There is no forgiveness of sins without shedding of blood.
- B. Every crime against a human is a crime against God.
- C. How much more sins against God and against his Son?
- D. Reconciliation means facing one another in peace.