

RUSSELL SANDERS
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NO OFFENSE

Jesus told us that we must forgive all who have offended or transgressed [sinned] against us. However, if we are offended or hurt, forgiveness is a choice we make. That choice requires us to either keep the offense or to forgive those who offended us. Which do we choose?

Proverbs 19:11 tells us that it is far better to not take offense in the first place. Again, it is a choice to not feel offended. To say “but I couldn’t help it” is a lousy excuse, thus a lousy choice. You choose to feel hurt or offended, or you choose not to be.

Proverbs 19:11 says, ***“The discretion [choice] of a man deferred [puts aside] his anger, and it is his glory to pass over [ignore] a transgression.”***

The NIV says it this way: ***“A person’s wisdom yields patience. It is to one’s glory to overlook an offense.”*** You refuse to even acknowledge an offense.

The Amplified Bible says it this way: ***“Good sense and discretion make a man slow to anger [withholding an emotional response]. And it is his honor and glory to [entirely] overlook a transgression or an offense [without seeking revenge or harboring resentment].”***

The message here is that if anybody says something or does something against you, it should be like “water off a duck’s back.” It should never “ruffle your feathers.” It is your choice not to take it personally.

Proverbs 19:11 tells us it is wisdom to never get offended. To be offended and forgive the offender is actually a failure in wisdom, since we shouldn’t be offended in the first place. To take offense is to allow that person to have control over you through being offended.