

HELEN SANDERS

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## THE GIFT OF FORGIVENESS

Did you know that forgiveness is not an option for a Christian? We must forgive if we are to be forgiven. Actually, there is power in forgiving. It sets others free but also sets you free. It is one of the greatest gifts that you can ever give a person. Not a single one of us is void of sin. Each of us needs a Savior that forgives us.

Jesus spoke a lot about forgiving. He even said that if we don't forgive, we are eventually turned over to the tormentors. Is your life full of torment? Are you constantly upset over things that don't "go away"?

Perhaps it is time to examine your heart to see if there is anyone that you have something against. Perhaps it is the person that cut ahead of you in line at the grocery store. Maybe it is your Mother or Dad that treated you terribly as a child. Perhaps it is your child that has treated you with disrespect. Maybe you are mad at the government because you don't think they are doing things right. Maybe it is your neighbor, or maybe even your Pastor.

We cannot hold on to un-forgiveness. Eventually, we will turn bitter, and then comes torment. I have met people that are full of bitterness. Nothing anyone says or does is right or good enough for people like this. Then there are those that have gone beyond bitterness to a reprobate mind, where all they think about is evil all of the time.

This process doesn't happen overnight my friends. It starts with a small offense that isn't forgiven and builds and builds until the heart of the person is so calloused that it is almost impossible for God to get through to them. Sometimes they are turned over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh. That sounds pretty serious to me.

If you have un-forgiveness or bitterness in your life that needs to be dealt with, I suggest that you don't put it off. There comes a point of no return. Ask God to forgive you of this sin. Let the love of God penetrate your heart and give you the freedom to forgive. You will, without a doubt, find peace that you never experienced, and the person that you forgive will find that peace too.

Don't put it off until it is too late. Do it now while it is a fresh thought. Always remember that un-forgiveness is a poison we take hoping it will destroy someone else. Selah (pause and think about it). Be blessed to be a blessing!