



LOVE DOES NOT KEEP A

- 1 Corinthians 13:5d, Love...is not resentful (esv)
- 1 Corinthians 13:5d, Love...does not take into account a wrong suffered (nash)
- 1 Corinthians 13:5d, Love...keeps no record of wrongs. (niv)
- 1 Corinthians 13:5d, Love does not keep a reckoning of wrongs.

- ✳ **Reckoning** | logizomai: a bookkeeping term; to take an inventory, to estimate, to calculate and enter into a ledger.
- ✳ **Relational Reckoning** | Keeping a ledger of other people; all the ways they wrong you, sin against you, and hurt you.
- ✳ **Wrongs** | kakos: worthless, bad, evil, harm.
- ✳ **Love absorbs evil** without calculating how to retaliate.

FAITH IN CHRIST CLEARS MY

- 2 Corinthians 5:19a, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them.
- ✳ **Logizomai** | used in New Testament to describe God’s forgiveness for those who trust in Jesus.
- ✳ **When we trust in Christ, our sins are no longer counted against us** because of the work of Christ on the cross for us.

Romans 4:3-6, For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

- Romans 4:22-25**, That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness.” But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.
- ✳ **When we trust in Christ our Spiritual Ledger is no longer filled with an accounting of all our sins**, but is instead filled with the righteousness of Christ.

- Romans 4:7-8**, Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.
- ✳ **It’s not that God can’t remember your sins**, but that He no longer counts them against you. This is the love of God for you!

LOVING GOD ELIMINATES MY NEED

- James 1:17**, Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.
- ✳ **Loving God Requires Faith** | It means that I believe He is good all the time, and when I experience His will as something difficult, or something I don’t understand, I believe that God will be shown to have done the right thing when all the facts are known.
- ✳ **No Variation or Shadow** | God is perfectly good and only gives good gifts to His children; there is no dark area of His character, goodness, or care for us.
- ✳ **Theologically I can say that God never sins**, yet I might still resent Him.

Romans 8:28, *And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.*

Genesis 50:20, *As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.*

✳ **I Can Choose To Love God** | I don't need to keep a record of resentments.

LOVING OTHERS PROHIBITS

1 Corinthians 13:5d, *Love does not keep a reckoning of wrongs.*

✳ Loving People means I forgive them when they wrong me, and I don't keep records.

REASONS TO NOT KEEP RECORDS

- ✳ The Bible _____ it.
- ✳ It misrepresents the character of Jesus to those around me.
- ✳ It _____ my soul.
- ✳ It damages my relationships.

Ephesians 4:32, *Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.*

Matthew 18:21-22, *Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.”*

✳ **One has learned nothing if one keeps a tally** of the number of times one has forgiven another so that when the magic number is reached, one can stop forgiving and mete out punishment.

Matthew 18:32-33, *Then his master summoned him and said to him, “You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?”*

John 21:15-17, *When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Feed my lambs.” He said to him a second time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Tend my sheep.” He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” and he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep.”*

HOW TO RESPOND TO THE WRONGS OF OTHERS:

- ✳ Sometimes I can simply _____.
- ✳ Sometimes I need to _____.
- ✳ Sometimes I _____ with the other person

Romans 12:21, *Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.*

✳ **John Chrysostom** | “A wrong done against love is like a spark that falls into the sea and is quenched. Love quenches wrongs rather than records them.”

WHAT IS IN MY RELATIONAL ACCOUNTING BOOK?

- ✳ What do I simply need to let go of?
- ✳ What do I need to address?
- ✳ What wrongs cannot be mended right now, so I will entrust them to God?