

The Cause and Consequences of an Unforgiving Spirit

Text: Luke 17:3-4

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church

Elkin, NC

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I. WHAT CAUSES AN UNFORGIVING SPIRIT?

1. An unregenerate heart
 - (1) An unregenerate heart is spiritually dead (*Ephesians 2:1*).
 - (2) An unregenerate heart lives life dominated by the world and the flesh (*Eph. 2: 2-3; Galatians 5:19-21*).
 - (3) An unregenerate heart does not know God's forgiveness.
 - (4) An unregenerate heart does not possess the love of God.
2. Ungodly pride
3. Obstinacy / Stubbornness
4. Rebellion against God and His word.
 - (1) We are commanded to forgive (*Colossians 3: 12-14*).
 - (2) We are commanded to love (*Jn. 13:34*).

II. WHAT ARE THE CONSEQUENCES OF AN UNFORGIVING SPIRIT?

1. An unforgiving spirit can affect your physical health.
2. An unforgiving spirit can affect your social life.
3. An unforgiving spirit will affect your spiritual life.
 - (1) An unforgiving spirit will damage your testimony.
 - (2) An unforgiving spirit, produced by anger and a refusal to forgive, causes God to reject your offerings (*Mt. 5: 21-24*).
 - (3) An unforgiving spirit will disrupt fellowship with God (*Mt. 6: 14-15*).