

“Mere Christianity” by C.S. Lewis Book 3 – Christians Behaviour, Chapter 7: “Forgiveness”

“Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.”

How easy it is to forgive your enemies and those that harm you? “...if we do not forgive, we shall not be forgiven.”

Mathew 6:14-15 – Jesus said:

“For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.”

1. Start by forgiving your wife, parents, children, and friends.
2. Try to understand what loving your neighbor as yourself means.
 - a. You can hate your sin but still love yourself.
 - b. You can accept punishment for your sin but still love yourself.
 - c. You can realize you are a creation of God.

I Tim. 4: 4-5 - “For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.”

Chapter 8: “The Great Sin”

The one vice of which no man is free; Pride or Self-Conceit
(Pride vs Humility)

1. The utmost evil is pride.
2. It is through pride that the devil became the devil.
3. Pride leads to every other vice. “...it is the complete anti-God state of mind.”
4. Pride is competitive by nature. Comparing yourself with others to inflate your ego.
5. Greed and selfishness are the result of pride.
6. Pride is enmity to God.

“It is better to forget about yourself altogether.”

Prov. 8:13 - “To fear the Lord is to hate evil; I hate pride and arrogance, evil behavior and perverse speech.”

Prov. 11:2 – “When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.”

Prov. 13:10 – “Pride only breeds quarrels, but wisdom is found in those who take advice.”

Prov. 16:18 – “Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.”

Prov. 29:23 – “A man’s pride brings him low, but a man of lowly spirit gains honor.”

Daniel 4:37 – “And those who walk in pride he is able to humble.”

God hates pride because it creates a chasm between Him and you.
His desire is to be one with you, His creation, for eternity.

Phil. 2:1-5 – “If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:”