

demanded. Blasphemy, violating the Sabbath, idolatry, adultery, etc were punished by stoning.

III) Forgiveness

A) Means to not hold something against, *Romans 4.7-8*

1. It is what we desire when we had done something wrong.
2. We are told to seek forgiveness from our fellowman and God. *Matthew 5.23-24*
3. Justice demands the sinner die for their sins, *Romans 6.23a*.

B) But forgiveness is hard to give, *Luke 17.3-4, 5*

1. There is a real cost associated with the offense.
2. They had personally harmed us, done something against us.
3. Just as our sins are against the very nature of God and there is a cost to our forgiveness.
4. That is why the example of Brandt Jean got so much attention.
 - a. The world says to seek vengeance and hold grudges.
 - b. The world even questioned the ulterior motives of this young man.

C) Mercy

1. We want to escape the consequences of our sins.