

PWL

REPENTANCE  
DIVORCE  
FORGIVENESS

*The Big Three*

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REPENTANCE

*Why We Assess*

1. IT IS LOVING FOR THE OFFENDER
2. Contributes to the safety of others
3. Helps the offended discern a response
4. Protects relationships with the Lord
5. It can feel uncomfortable for us

2

Godly or Worldly

Pride regrets making a fool of itself  
Detect that the people think it is stupid,  
silly, or reprehensible.

Repentance is Not

Established short term

# GODLY REGRET LEADS TO SALVATION.

BE WILLING TO CAUSE  
GODLY REGRET

DO NOT BE FOOLED BY  
WORDLY REGRET



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# REAL REPENTANCE



Recognizes the  
chief offense is  
against God  
(Ps 51)



The offender  
recognizes that  
God's grace  
allows us to turn  
from our sins.  
Rely on God not  
self- (1 Thes 1:9)



Fear of Lord  
increases. Seeks  
to move away  
from path of  
death to life



Will agree with  
Scripture's  
indictment of  
their heart



The offender  
possesses a strong  
desire to  
dismantle the  
old, sinful self.  
Grows in hatred  
of their sin (Paul  
in Acts; Acts  
22:4, 1 Cor 15:9,  
Gal 1:13, 1 Tim  
1:13).



Wholly  
acknowledges the  
specific effects



Will be painfully  
specific (Acts  
26:10-11) even if  
there are  
consequences.



Patient while  
others verify his  
or her  
repentance.  
(Gal 5:22-23)

WILL SEE THE NEED TO  
ALWAYS BE REPENTING

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# WHAT IT MEANS TO FORGIVE

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## Clarity

it does not mean forgetting  
it does not mean reconciliation

Forgiveness means entrusting your pain and the violations to the Lord.  
(Psalm 11:5, Proverbs 17:15)

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# Forgiveness

## Sacrifice

- Forgiveness of sins is not simply an act of divine mercy but involves a legal and sacrificial transaction
- based on the justice of God. Jesus had to die.

## Involves Pain

- Ask what it will cost them.
- Ask what they fear.
- Remember how MUCH they have to forgive.
- Be tender and go slow.

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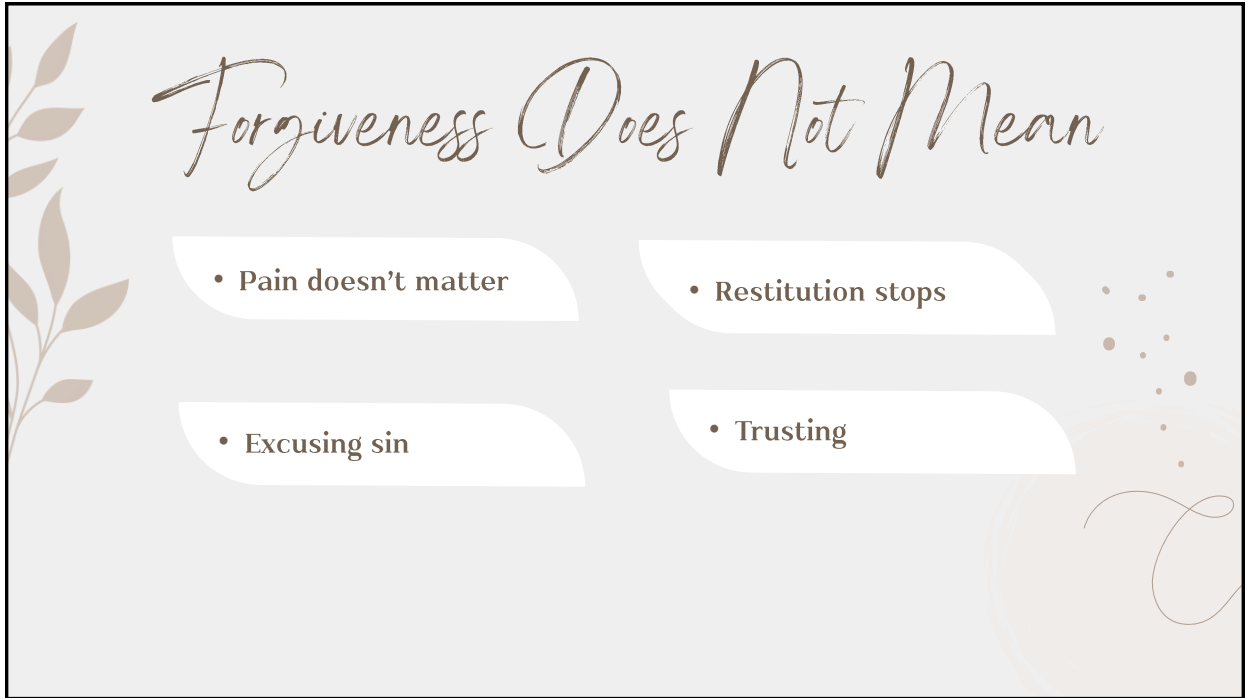
# What does Forgiveness Look Like?

When there is no repentance

When there is partial repentance

When there is complete repentance

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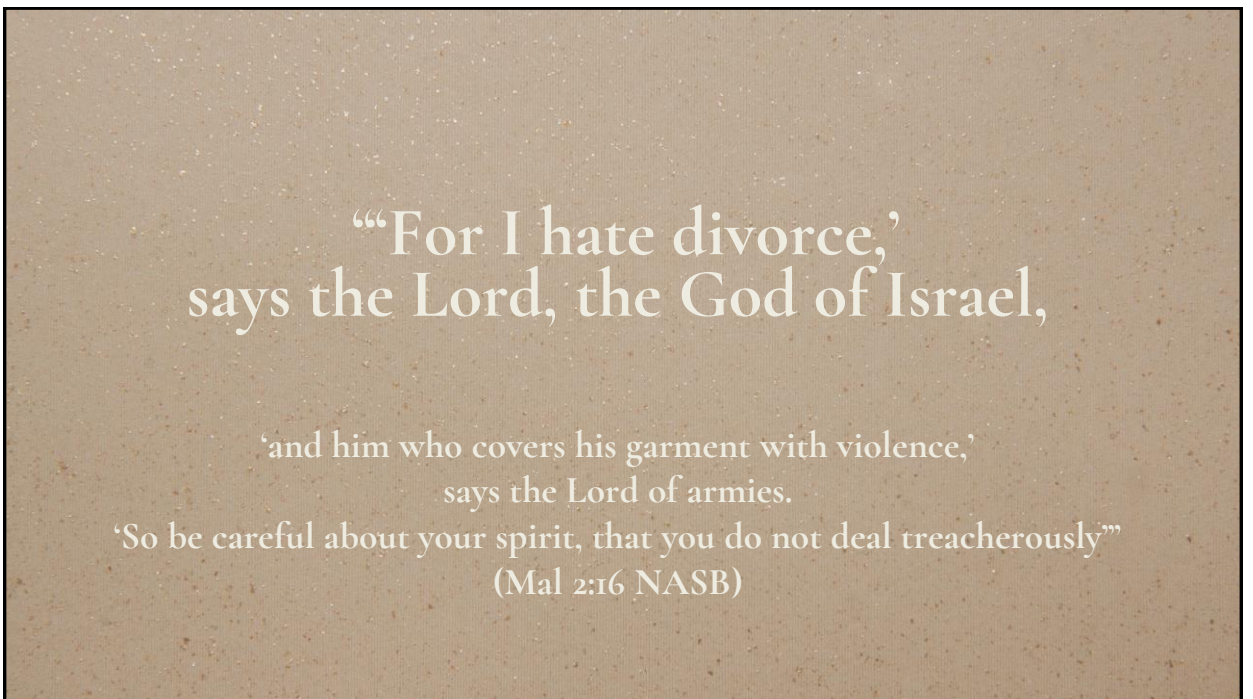


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13



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"For the man who does not love his wife but divorces her, says the Lord, the God of Israel, covers his garment with violence, says the Lord of hosts. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and do not be faithless."

**Malachi 2:16**

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*God hates the unjust betrayal  
of vulnerable woman*

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# VIEWS ON DIVORCE

01

## MARRIAGE PERMANENCE

Marriage is for life. No reasons are valid for divorce. Adultery pornea as chastity they take as a broken engagement.

02

## ADULTERY ONLY

view is rarer

03

## NAMED EXCEPTIONS

Exhaustive adultery and abandonment

As Examples abuse covenant breaking

# HELPING AN OPPRESSED PERSON CONTEMPLATE DIVORCE

Help a spouse accurately assess what occurred in the marriage

Accurately (and fully) label the events and trespasses

Consider the compounding sins

Examine how the harmed spouse is processing these details

# Examine the Impact of the Offense

Offender

- How has it shaped them?
- Their ability to love?
- Be honest?
- Their relationship with the Lord?

Offended

- What has this been like?
- How has it impacted you?
- Your ability to trust? Pray?
- What feels impossible to heal from?

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# What is currently happening?

• with the oppressor

Are they truthful, repentant, understanding the impact, motivated to do the work of restitution and repair?

• in the heart of the oppressed

What are the ways that you are looking for your spouse to change before reconciling? How confident are you that the issues are being addressed? When you think about reconciliation, what feelings arise?

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God is Faithful

"Make me to know your ways, O Lord;  
teach me your paths.  
Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
for you I wait all the day long."  
Psalm 25:4-5

He gifts wisdom

Will give you clarity and peace.

Provides strength and courage

He is a Redeemer

2

Avoid Costly Mistakes

do not tell them what to do  
go slow  
stick to your role  
provide hope tethered to what God will do  
consider the children



God restores what the  
locusts has eaten

HOPE IN RESTORATION  
JOEL 2:25

desolation, wilderness and  
wandering