

Our Covenant Of Forgiveness, Part 3

Sermon Title: **Our Covenant Of Forgiveness, Part 3**

Sermon Number: **7685**

Speaker: **C. Elijah Bronner**

Link to sermon audio - <http://www.theonlineword.com/mp3/7685.mp3>

Link to sermon video - <http://theark.s3.amazonaws.com/vid/7685.mp4>



BrothersofTheWord.com

C. Elijah Bronner: God teaches us that the way to free yourself is through forgiveness.

Female: You are listening to BrothersoftheWord.com. This is part 3 of the messages titled, Our Covenant of Forgiveness, by C. Elijah Bronner. This message is number 7685, that's 7685. Listen to over a thousand free messages on BrothersoftheWord.com.

(Music Playing: 00:00:21 - 00:00:48)

Female: And now for 7685, Our Covenant of Forgiveness, Part 3.

C. Elijah Bronner: Thank you for joining Brothers of the Word because "Brother, you need the Word."

We welcome all of you joining us by television and those of you joining us online at BrothersoftheWord.com. Stay tuned to today's message. Always a wonderful delight and joy to have you to tune in and join us. Well, would like to share just a little humor.

A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Jack and Chris. And the boys begin to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson. If Jesus were sitting here, He would say, "Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait." Jack turned to his younger brother Chris and said, "You be Jesus."

Well, we've been sharing on our covenant of forgiveness. Our covenant of forgiveness. And this is Part 3, this is Part 3, Our Covenant of Forgiveness. So, we're going to just jump right in because I have a lot of scriptures to show you. Sometimes I teach with a lot of scripture. Various scripture, intensive, because God's Word is so vital, it's so important that I don't want you to take my word for it. I want you to see it for yourself. You have to learn God's Word for yourself. You got to learn it for yourself. And so often, I'd be very scripture-intensive in my teaching, but open your Bibles to the Book of Micah. The Book of Micah, the Book of Micah. This is our covenant of forgiveness, Part 3. We will try to move rapidly because I want to show you lots.

Man, God's Word is so good on this. I was talking with the Lord I said, "Lord, do I show them this scripture? Do I show them that scripture?" It was just so many and they were also good. I mean

I felt like a mosquito in a nudist camp. I didn't quite know where to plug in. But we're going to plug in at some good scriptures. Micah Chapter 7. Let's read verse 18 through 20. Micah is in the Old Testament. The quickest way to find Micah is, go to the last book in the Old Testament which is Malachi then flip back to the left about six or seven books and you have a tiny little book there called Micah. Micah is very tiny only about seven, eight chapters in it. But Micah Chapter 7. Let's read verse 18 through 20. When you get there, say, "Amen". Let's begin with Verse 18. Read together in unison.

"Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He retaineth not His anger forever because He delighteth in mercy. He will turn again. He will have compassion on us." This is the redeeming quality of God. I want you to see His redemption. "He will subdue our iniquities." Now at one time, sin had dominion over us, but not any longer. God subdued our iniquities and so sin, lords it over us no more. And notice this, the final part. "And thou wilt cast all--" somebody say "all their sins into the depths of the sea."

I'm so glad that He said that, He cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. Notice He didn't say -- He didn't put them on the shore because if He did put them on the shore, that water is so shallow, they could float back up. But He put them out in the depths -- out in the depths of the sea where they'll be discovered no more. Man, if you go miles out in the ocean I mean, the ocean becomes a bottomless pit and that's where he put our sins. Praise God, praise God. Somebody, give God praise right there. That's where He put our sins, that's where he put our sins, that's where he put our sins, that's where he put our sins.

Now the devil is an accuser. He is an accuser of the brethren. And so, his job is to try to bring your sins back up in your face.

00:05:01

There was a little boy. He was at his grandmother's house and he had gotten a new slingshot, and he was so proud of his little slingshot. So, he shot a tree and then, he shot a leaf and his grandmother had to duck and he was just playing around. So, he just got to aim on that duck and before he knew it, he had released it and the rock hit the duck in the head and killed it. That boy

quickly got that duck and buried it and as he finished burying it, he looked up and saw his sister, Sally. She had watched the whole thing and he went on about his business and later that evening, after dinner, grandma said, "Sally, I need you to help me with the dishes." And Sally said, "Grandma, Billy wanted to do the dishes tonight." And she leaned over to Billy and said, "Remember the duck."

And so, Billy did the dishes. And all that week, every time something came up. Grandpa said, "Hey kids, come on, I'm going to take you fishing." And grandma said, "No, Sally can't go because I need her to help me with chores and clean the house and get ready for dinner." And Sally said, "Grandma, Billy said he wanted to do the chores. He wanted to stay and clean the house." And she leaned over to Billy and said, "Remember the duck." And so, Billy stayed and did all the chores and she did that all week long. So, finally, Billy can't take it anymore. He said, "Grandma, I killed a duck. I'm so sorry, I killed the duck." And grandma said, "I knew it. I actually watched the whole thing from the kitchen window. I knew you had killed the duck. I had already forgiven you and I was wondering how long you would be enslaved to your sister."

And that's what the devil is trying us to do, he's sin is enslaving. He's tries to keep us under condemnation and guilt. He's trying to keep us hidden in the deep assesses of our moral depravity and sin, making us feel so unworthy and so enslaved and so trapped when all along God has forgiven us and God remembers our sins no more. He remembers our sins no more. And so, this is a cruel trick the devil tries to play on God's people. And then, look at Verse 20 here in Micah 7 Verse 20. "Thou wilt perform the truth to Jacob and the mercy to Abraham which thou hast sworn unto our fathers from the days of old."

That is the covenant. And so, that's why, I entitled this, The Covenant Of Forgiveness, this roots all the way back to what God swore to Abraham. That would be merciful to your children, to your seed and I'll bless them abundantly. And so, a lot of the mercy and a lot of the forgiveness that we're walking in today is a result of a covenant that God made with Abraham, that He would be merciful to Abraham, He would be merciful to Abraham and the faithfulness of that covenant would go to Jacob and all the seed of Abraham from generations to come including us

because now, if you're with Christ then, are you Abraham's seed and your heirs according to the promise.

And so, God's covenant faithfulness to forgive us of our sins is a covenant. It's a covenant, it's a covenant. This is our covenant of forgiveness. Now, the reasons why God forgives sins, they're all taken from Himself and not from the merits of men, but they're from the mercies of God. They're for His promise sake, they're for His covenant's sake. They're all from His honor, to honor the covenant. His loving desire to honor His covenant, His promise is because of His mercy and this is why God forgives us of our sin is all the reasons root in God, not from the merits of men, but all of the reasons why He forgives us, they all come out of Himself. They all come out of Himself.

Flip over to Isaiah Chapter 43. Isaiah Chapter 43 in your Old Testament. Isaiah Chapter 43. Let me show you this one. Man, these are some good scriptures and I just couldn't forgo any of them. Isaiah Chapter 43. Look at verse 25. Isaiah 43 Verse 25, when you get there, say, "Amen". Isaiah 43:25. Look at this one, notice what God says here. "I, even I, am He that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine Own sake and will not remember thy sins." He says, "I, even I, am He." God's the only one who's able to forgive all our sins. I am He. And God is saying –

00:10:00

"I made this choice out of myself. I choose to forgive you." We learned a lesson from God. He said, "I'd do it for my own sake." For God teaches us that the way to free yourself is through forgiveness. You free yourself when you forgive others. And so, God says, "I, even I, am the only one who can forgive your sin. I could hold you in judgment or I can forgive you, but I choose to forgive you and I've done it for my own sake." And God has said, "I'm not going to let all that unforgiveness clog me up. I'm not going to be bottled up with all of that unforgiveness and all of that wrath and judgements. No." God says, "I'd rather forgive you; I'd rather forgive you, I'd rather delight in mercy, I'd rather delight in mercy. It's better to forgive, it's better to forgive, it's better to forgive. Turn to your neighbor and say, "It's better to forgive."

And so, He did that for His own sake, He did that for His own sake. God forgave us for His own sake. That His for His mercy's

sake. It's for His promise's sake. That's for His covenant, that's for His covenant's sake. Notice that in this one He says, "I'll blot out all your sins." Blot them out, blot them out, blot means to wipe it out, complete removal. He blotted out all our sins. Complete removal. It actually means, it's been erased from the record. If there's a sheet of paper held up in heaven with your name on it, and all the sins you've committed, it's a blank sheet of paper, it's a blank sheet of paper. He's blotted out the record. He's erased the record, He's erased the record, He's erased the record, He's erased the record.

Now, you have to be careful when you judge somebody because somebody did something wrong and you judge them, you speak against them, you criticize them, you condemn them not knowing that they might've repented. And God's already wiped it clean. He remembers it no more, but yet here you are ramming your mouth against them. You don't even realize their record is clean. God had already forgotten it. It's in the depths of the sea. He remembers it no more. Now, you have incriminated your own self. You've incriminated your own self with the guilt of what God had already forgiven them of.

Oh, man, when God forgives, He forgets. It's over, it's done. There's no record of it anywhere in existence. It doesn't exist anymore as far as God is concerned. Somebody, give God a praise right there. Man, that's good news, that's good news, that's good news, that's good news. I've been forgiven of my sins. I'll shout it from the mountaintop. I'll shout it from the house top. I've been forgiven. I'm a free man, I'm a free man, I'm a free man, I'm a free man. I've been forgiven of my sins, I've been forgiven of my sins, I've been forgiven of my sins. I'm a free man. I'm a free man now. Oh, man, that's the good news of the gospel, that's the good news of the gospel, that's the good news of the gospel. He's released us from our sins. That's the good news of the gospel. Oh, man, He's blotted them out. He nailed them.

Colossians Chapter 2. We want to turn there, for the sake of time, but Colossians 2:13-14 uses that same word "blotted out". That He blotted out our sins and our transgressions that he nailed the written accusations or the written debt that was against us. He nailed it to the cross. Nailed it to the cross. And so, we all had a sin debt that was against us. This debt was an obligation that we owe. It was penalty, it was punishment, it was judgement, it was wrath, it was a debt from the law, all the curses of the law were

due on us because we have broken the law and so, we had a huge debt against us.

The Bible says, "Jesus paid that debt and he nailed it to the cross, paid in full." Paid in full, paid in full, paid in full. The curse, folks, listen to this, "The curse has been nailed to the cross, the curse has been nailed to the cross, the curse has been nailed to the cross." All of your punishment, all of God's wrath, all of God's anger, all of the obligation, all of the punishment, the guilt and the shame, everything that was due on you has been nailed to the cross. Oh, has been nailed to the cross, has been nailed to the cross, has been nailed to the cross. Praise God, praise God, praise God.

00:15:13

Let me show this one quickly. Flip over to Psalms 130. Psalms 130. Some of them was so good, I can't forego not showing them to you. I got to show them to you. Psalms 130. Psalms 130:3, verse 4. We are going to look at verse 3, verse 4, verse 7 and 8. Psalms 130. Watch this. Now, you're going to see something good here. Psalms 130. Look at Verse 3. He says, "If thou, Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?"

Now, the word "mark" means to take a note of, make a record of it, keep every instance. This other Psalms, it says "If you recorded every sin every time; I do something wrong, think something wrong or do something that's not right out of Your Will, out of Your Law. If you kept a record of that ongoing of everything, every word spoken, every thought, everything that's not of you, if you kept a record, if you kept a list of all our sins, he says, "Who can stand?" Who can stand? Who can stand? Who can stand?

There was a couple. They have been married for 15 years and the wife had a brilliant idea because they were having a lot of arguments and so, the wife said, "What are we going to do? We're going to have -- what we're going to call a fault box." So, they got a little box in the home, put a little slit in the top of it. And they said, "Every time we irritate one another, every time there's an irritation, write it down and put it in the box and at the end of the month, we would come back and review all of our faults." And so, they did it and the wife were busy writing down, and so, at the end of the month, they got ready to open the box and so the husband, he opened it and he looked at all of his faults and she

had them listed out. She had a list of that, but he had a ton of papers there. And he was just going through them. Man, you're leaving the toilet seat up and you leave wet towels in the shower and you don't put the top back on the jelly, you leave the toothpaste running out. And she had all these listed out. Every piece of paper he pulled out.

And then, she took the box to pull out his grievances against her and all of her irritations to him and every slip of paper she opened said, "I love you." I love you. I love you. That's what God has done for us. Thank you He's not keeping a list. He's not keeping a list of our sins. Praise God. Praise God. Aren't you glad God's not keeping a list? He's not keeping a list. He's not keeping a list of our sins. He has blotted them out, completely removed them forever. Completely removed them forever.

Now, back in Micah, flip back to Micah. Back in our original text, Micah 7 Verse 18. Here's the biggest characteristic we learned from God. Here's the biggest thing we learned from God about this. Micah 7 Verse 18 where it says, "Who is a God like unto thee that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He retaineth not His anger forever, because He delighteth in mercy." He delights in mercy. That simply means, that God doesn't grudgingly forgive us. He doesn't grudgingly forgive us. He's happy to forgive us. He's happy to forgive us. He's thrilled. He willingly forgives us. It's with joy. It's His pleasure. It's His pleasure to forgive us. God delights in seeing people saved. God delights in seeing people restored. God delights in seeing people's lives turned around. He delights in seeing people to have a new beginning and a new start. He delights in giving people a second chance. God loves this.

You've heard the expression when somebody might tell somebody to do some of this. "I'd do it when I'm good and ready." Anybody ever heard of this expression. Well, I want you to know God said that and I found the scripture where He said it. But here's the good news, where our sins are concerned, God said, "I'm good and ready." I'm good and ready to forgive them. But I got to show this really quick, and this will tickle me. Psalms 86. Psalms 86. Psalms 86. Psalms 86. Psalms 86:5. Psalms 86 Verse 5. You'll see, this is actually in the scripture. Look at Psalms 86 Verse 5.

“For thou, Lord, art good and ready to forgive.” God’s good and ready to forgive. God is good and ready to forgive. God is good and ready to forgive. God delights. God takes great joy in forgiving us. He takes great joy in forgiving us. Do you ever notice that Jesus --?

00:20:01

-- when he walked the earth, he was called the friend of sinners? He was a friend of sinners and snobbish, uppity, self-righteous people got on Jesus all the time for hanging around sinners. Jesus was always hanging around sinners. And he was breaking tradition because Pharisees didn’t hang around sinners. In fact, the Pharisees were so stuck up they had a way that they said, “Sinner.” You know, you can’t even be near them, sinner. It was the way they said it and so, Jesus came along and he was hanging with sinners. He was going to their home to have dinner with sinners. He was happy to do it. He loved doing it. This is why because he was so ready to forgive. He was so ready to change their life. He was so ready to bring His mercy and His goodness into their life. That’s why He was hanging around sinners. He loved being around sinners. He wanted sinners to experience forgiveness for all their sins, so they would be sinners no more.

He was a friend of sinners. He was a friend of sinners. Now, I went through -- and you could do this in your own time but -- and I’m closing with this, but in Luke Chapter 15. In Luke Chapter 15, you don’t have to turn there. We don’t have time. I’m actually out of time so, I’m on grace right now. But in Luke 15, that’s the paramount chapter in the Bible where Jesus was a friend of sinners. He was a friend of sinners and nobody understood why He was such a friend of sinners. He was such a friend of sinners. And so, the whole chapter deals with him being a friend of sinners, Him being a friend of sinners.

And so, in this chapter, He gives accounts of the prodigal son, He gives accounts of the lost coin, He gives account of the lost sheep and He’s explaining why He’s a friend of sinners, but these are some of the words I poured out when I saw his relation to sinners and I saw God’s relation to sinners. These are some of the words I poured out. Number one I saw these two words and they pretty much mean the same thing. I saw the word, “hurry” and I saw the word “ran”.

He told Zacchaeus; Zacchaeus was a sinner. Jesus said, "Hurry up." For He looked up the tree and saw Zacchaeus. Jesus said, "Hurry up and come down because I want to go to your house today. I want to stay with you and I want to spend the day with you." Jesus was in a hurry. He said, "Hurry up." He can't wait for Zacchaeus to come down from that tree. He said, "Hurry up, make haste." That's how God is toward sinners. He said, "Hurry up." He's in a hurry to get the sinners. Church, have we lost -- have we lost what the real gospel is about? Are we going after sinners?

He was in a hurry. He was in a hurry. He says, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down." Jesus' heart was so full of mercy and so full of compassion, He couldn't wait to spend the day with Zacchaeus, a sinner, a sinner. Jesus changed his life. Whose life are you changing? What sinners are you impacting by your faith, by the forgiveness, the mercy of God. Who are showing his love to, His forgiveness and His grace too for that's the reason He came? And so, He said, "Hurry".

The second word I saw, this means the same thing. When the father saw the prodigal son coming home, the Bible says, "He ran. That's the eagerness of God to get to sinners." He ran toward him, not to kill him but to restore him. So, God's always in a hurry. He's always running towards sinners. That's the first thing I saw

Here's the second thing I saw. God is always seeking, looking and going after. He went after, He said, "If you have a hundred sheep and one of them gets lost, the shepherd leaves the 99, he goes after the one." So, if you lose a coin, you seek, you seek. Then I saw -- look, so you go after, you seek and you look. That's the second thing I saw. You go after sinners. You're always looking, you're always seeking for the loss. And that's God's heart towards sinners. He's always going after them. He's always seeking them. He's always looking. Jesus said, "I came to seek and save that which was lost." Jesus said, "I didn't come for the well, I came for the sick. I'm a physician and I came for the sin-sick soul." That's who He came for.

And then, here's the third thing I noticed about God's attitude towards sinners, once He finds them, Oh, once He finds them, once He recovers one, there would always be great rejoicing. There would always be great rejoicing, there would always be great rejoicing. When the shepherd would find the sheep. He

said, "He would call all of his friends." And say, "I've found the one that was missing."

00:25:05

When the woman would find the missing coin that fell out of her purse, when she finds it, she calls all of her friends, rejoicing saying, "Rejoice with me. I found my money that I had lost." And then, when the prodigal son came home, dad has said, "We got to throw the biggest party we've ever had." There's always rejoicing. He rejoices, he rejoices. All the angels in heaven rejoice more over one sinner that repents than all the other that are already righteous. Oh, man, that's the heart of the Father, that's the heart of the Father. That's the heart of the Father toward sinners. Folks, we've been forgiven of our sins, we've been forgiven of our sins, we've been forgiven of our sins, we've been forgiven of our sins.

Oh boy, oh man, walk in your righteousness. Walk in your righteousness as in Christ Jesus. Walk in that righteousness, walk in that righteousness, walk in that righteousness. Praise God, praise God.

(Music Playing)

Jesus said, "Go and sin no more." Your sins have been taken care of. Sin is not who you are any longer. You're now the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. God not only removed your sin from your account. He took sin away from your account and then He credited your account with righteousness. So, He took the debt of sin and removed that, He blotted that off your account then He credited your account with the righteousness of Christ Jesus.

C. Elijah Bronner: And so, God now sees you as righteous. You're the righteousness of God. Walk in that righteousness, live in that righteousness. You've been set free from your sins. You've been set free from your sins. Never let the devil make you feel like, "That's who you are." That's not who you are, that's not who you are, that's not who you are. You're the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. You're the beloved of the Father now. He loves you so much, He refuses to live without you. He came down and paid the penalty of sin, the debt of sin for you on your behalf, so that you can be

free, you can live with Him forever and be righteous. Thank you, Lord Jesus. Praise God. Praise God. Praise God. Praise God. Amen. Amen. God bless you. God bless you. God bless you.

Female:

You are listening to BrothersoftheWord.com. This was part three of the message titled, Our Covenant of Forgiveness, by C. Elijah Bronner. This message is number 7685, that's 7685. To listen to over a thousand free messages or to send this message number 7685 to a friend, go to BrothersoftheWord.com. Listen to BrothersoftheWord.com often because "Brother, you'll need the Word."

(Music Playing: 00:28:02 - 00:28:08)

00:28:09