

Dublin Baptist Church
Singing The Song of the Lord in a Foreign Land
July 3, 2022

Psalm 137

¹ By the waters of Babylon,
there we sat down and wept,
when we remembered Zion.

² On the willows^[a] there
we hung up our lyres.

³ For there our captors
required of us songs,
and our tormentors, mirth, saying,
“Sing us one of the songs of Zion!”

⁴ How shall we sing the Lord's song
in a foreign land?

⁵ If I forget you, O Jerusalem,
let my right hand forget its skill!

⁶ Let my tongue stick to the roof of my mouth,
if I do not remember you,
if I do not set Jerusalem
above my highest joy!

⁷ Remember, O Lord, against the Edomites
the day of Jerusalem,
how they said, “Lay it bare, lay it bare,
down to its foundations!”

⁸ O daughter of Babylon, doomed to be destroyed,
blessed shall he be who repays you
with what you have done to us!

⁹ Blessed shall he be who takes your little ones
and dashes them against the rock!

Sermon Introduction: “There is a drift from the unthinkable to the thinkable”
Francis Shaeffer.

To engage in such is to behave just like the world.

“Never wrestle with a pig. All it does is get you dirty and the pig enjoys it”

We offer forgiveness in the face of offense.

The nature of forgiveness is that we do not want our enemies to be destroyed, we want them saved and changed.

Forgiveness is absolute in the New Testament

“For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.” Matthew 6:14-15

“And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.” Mark 11:25

“Then Peter came up and said to Him, ‘Lord, how often will be my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.’” Matthew 18:21-22

“But love your enemies, and do good, and lend expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for He is kind to the ungrateful and the evil.” Luke 6:35

Forgiveness is facing the offense, it is not ignoring it

Facing our pain of offence

“Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger.” Ephesians 4:26-27

Facing our responsibility

Forgiveness is canceling a debt with grace

“Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.” Ephesians 4:32

“Bearing with one another and if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other, as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.” Colossians 3:13

It is about how the gospel changes you. Are you willing to be changed to be different in this world? If you are not, can you pray this prayer?

“I am willing to be made willing” Darrel Gabbard

When you forgive and live differently

God is glorified

You are changed

Others see the change