

Christlike Bookkeeping 2017-08-06

1 Cor 13:5

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful;

When the foyer was remodeled, I found many old paper files. Important at one time.

- 1 Cor 13:5c reference to mental files we keep on people who have hurt us.

Greek *logizomai* (lo-geē'-za-my) means 'to calculate'.

Love is not *logizomai* (lo-gē'-zo-mī)

Not resentful ESV

Does not take into account a wrong suffered. NAS

Keeps no record of being wronged. NLT

Keeps no record of wrongs. NIV

Thinks no evil. NKJV

- *Logozomai* is an accountant's word used for recording an item in a ledger so it's not forgotten.

Love does not keep ledger/record of evil deeds, wrongs, offenses suffered for sake of future "payback"....usually deeds or words but can be "emotional."

- Does not forget the wrong, but chooses not to take it into account, keep score, bear grudge.
 - Love does not keep a record of wrongs....It is not easy, it means going to the cross and choosing to love others the way the Lord loves you.
 - Displayed in other way this Greek word used in New Testament.

Amazingly *logizomai* (lo-geē'-zo-my) is used in New Testament to speak of pardoning work of God.

- KJV translated this bookkeeping term "imputed." James 2:23, 2 Cor 5:18-19, Rom 4:7-8, 22-25
- God is not keeping account of Christians' sin/guilt but instead imputing righteousness of Jesus Christ to Christians' account.
 - On the cross, Jesus is voluntarily treated as *if* He were sinner, though He is perfectly holy/pure, so we are treated as *if* we were righteous, though we are guilty sinners, defiled and depraved.
 - Jesus exchanged our sin for His perfect righteousness so that we can be declared righteous (just). 2 Cor 5:21
- Because of Jesus's penal substitutionary atonement, God thinks of Jesus's righteousness as belonging to Christians and reckons it to their account.
 - So the Christians' ledger/record is not of sin, but holy righteousness of Jesus Christ. Rom 5:17, Phil 3:9
 - Righteousness is not based on our merit but on the grace of God in the saving work of Jesus Christ.

Christian's only record is of Jesus Christ's imputed righteousness and absolute forgiveness because of God's mercy, grace and love toward us. Eph 4:32, Ps 103:10-14

- God does not keep any books on your sin, so don't keep books on evils of others.

- Not keeping record of wrongs is necessary for Christ-centered community (LEFC mission) and selfishly for your own joy.
 - Share my story in this area of sin.

If you truly forgive, you won't let little irritation bring to mind entire file of previous offenses or use those offenses as weapon by reminding offender of event.

- Love does not keep record of wrongs....it hesitates to believe any evil about someone, never keeps account/score or bears grudge of wrongs done but always forgives.
- I don't know what wrong was done to you, but I know if you are resentful, keep an account and are bitter, then that person is still hurting you.
 - God has so much more for you in Christ than living in bitter resentment.
 - You can continue in pain or repent, forgive and walk in freedom, joy.
 - Are there any "records" you need to get rid of?