

# Wasted Time

I have come to the belief that a large amount of valuable time is wasted in relationships by people determined to make others pay for actual or perceived wrongs done. At times it completely destroys relationships. It usually goes something like this. There is a misunderstanding and hurt feelings. Communication stops as the offended feels justified in making the offender pay. The offender may be oblivious to the fact that they have hurt the feelings of another. The offended refuses to acknowledge that the offender didn't mean anything and the grudge becomes bigger and bigger. Pride, the worst sin in God's eyes, keeps the offended from forgiving. They feel powerless and become insensitive to the other party, feeling revenge is necessary.

Not only are we wasting valuable time while this is going on - time which could be spent enjoying relationships - but we usually end up hurting ourselves more than the intended individual. And not only does our attitude affect our relationship with the individual we are trying to get even with, it also spills over into all of our relationships and has the potential of destroying them as well.

Paul tells us, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord." Romans 12:19. We are not to try to obtain justice ourselves. We are to give that responsibility to God. God knows the true situation. He knows how to deal with the hurt, perceived or real, far better than we do.

This valuable time we are wasting can never be recovered. It is gone forever and its use in this way is destroying otherwise great relationships and ruining potentially great times, now and in the future. Don't waste your valuable time or the time of others. Clear things up right away and make things right. Forgive, even if you don't think it is deserved, and get on with enjoying life as we were meant to. Let God meet out justice if it needs to be done. He will do it at the right time and in the right way.

Life was given to us to enjoy. So go and enjoy it to its full. In God's good time He will deal with the negatives.

2 Timothy 2:15