

# Grudges

by John Henry Jowett

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*The sermon emphasizes the necessity of complete forgiveness and the transformative power of divine grace in overcoming grudges.*

**Scripture:** Psalm 51:10, Matthew 6:14, Ephesians 4:31, Colossians 3:13

**Topics:** "Forgiveness", "Grace"

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## Description

John Henry Jowett preaches on the commandment from Leviticus 19:11-18, emphasizing the profound demand for complete forgiveness without holding any grudges. He acknowledges the human struggle to meet this demand, as it requires letting go of all anger, revenge, and superiority towards the offender. Jowett highlights the impossibility of achieving this on our own, but through God's grace, our hearts can be transformed to create a new climate of goodwill and peace, where grudges and revenge have no place.

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## Transcript

"\_Thou shalt not bear any grudge.\_"

--LEVITICUS xix. 11-18.

How searching is that demand upon the soul! My forgiveness of my brother is to be complete. No sullenness is to remain, no sulky temper which so easily gives birth to thunder and lightning. There is to be no painful aloofness, no assumption of a superiority which rains contempt upon the offender. When I forgive, I am not to carry any powder forward on the journey. I am to empty out all my explosives, all my ammunition of anger and revenge. I am not to "bear any grudge."

I cannot meet this demand. It is altogether beyond me. I might utter words of forgiveness, but I cannot reveal a clear, bright, blue sky without a touch of storm brewing anywhere. But the Lord of grace can do it for me.

He can change my weather. He can create a new climate. He can "renew a right spirit within me," and in that holy atmosphere nothing shall live which seeks to poison and destroy. Grudges shall die "like cloud-spots in the dawn." Revenge, that awful creation of the unclean, feverish soul, shall give place to goodwill, the strong genial presence which makes its home in the new heart.

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Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/john-henry-jowett/grudges/>

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