



FOREVER FORGIVEN

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The Holy Bible, New King James Version
(NKJV)

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Introduction

When we understand God's forgiveness, which is given boundlessly because of God's unmerited favour towards us, we realise that it is true even though we don't deserve it. And there is nothing we can do to earn it. The only thing left for us is to accept it humbly, gratefully receive it, and acknowledge that God is real and that there is only one way to the Father, and it cost God dearly. Our Salvation is free because Jesus paid the ultimate price for it. Oh, what a Saviour! It is always the goodness of God that leads us to change our minds about Him and His ways and gives us the strength, grace, and ability to overcome. Forgiveness is forever; it does not require us to confess, beat ourselves up, or show super sorrow. It is the simple Gospel.

This is a foundational teaching not based on what we may have heard about an angry God who is ready to condemn. Forgiveness, mercy, and grace are gifts that are freely available. The only condition is based solely on our free choice to accept or reject it. Once we understand this, other biblical

truths make sense. So, I encourage you to discover the truth for yourself and let it transform you.

Much love

Colleen

God is Just; He Has To Punish Sin.

But we have a Saviour! Jesus paid the price for us to escape the punishment of death. 1 Corinthians 6:20 says that God bought you with a high price. Jesus made the difference; at the cross, He changed the way God relates to humanity.

2 Corinthians 5:17–18 says,

"This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! 18 And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to Him."

God brought us back to Himself. He made the way and invited us to come. To reconcile is to make friendly. God made everyone His friend, and to all those who believed in Him and accepted Him, He gave them the right to become children of God (John 1:12).

The debt of death has been paid off in full by Jesus on our behalf. Now we must

receive it. We must put our faith in the Lord so that what He has provided has its full effect in our lives. Justice demanded our punishment. But Jesus took it for us. Now, God's wrath has been satisfied. He is no longer angry with people.

2 Corinthians 5:19

"For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation."

God is no longer counting our sins against us. God was in Christ, not imputing or counting our sins against us. This does not mean that we can go and live in sin. We strive to avoid sin because we have the hope of becoming like Jesus. We seek ways to overcome sin, not indulge in it.

1 John 3:3 says,

"And all who have this eager expectation will keep themselves pure, just as he is pure."

Jesus paid for every one of our sins. Past, present and future, 'forever'. One drop of Jesus' blood is purer than all the iniquity and ungodliness of this entire world.

PEOPLE DO NOT GO TO HELL BECAUSE OF THEIR SINS.

They go to hell because they refuse to receive the Saviour and his forgiveness. God was in Christ, not holding men's sins against them. (2 Corinthians 5:19). Sin is not the issue. What we are doing with Jesus is the issue.

Romans 5:13 is a pivotal scripture that helps us understand the entirety of the Bible.

Romans 5:13

"Yes, people sinned even before the law was given. But it was not counted as sin because there was not yet any law to break."

It states that there was no law to break, while other versions say, "until the law." Sin was not counted as sin until the Law came. The law was given 2,500 years after the fall of Adam. Until then, everyone sinned, yet God was not imputing people's sins against them. Until the time that the law was given everyone sinned, but God was not holding their sin against them.

The law was in effect for the following 1,500 years until the time Jesus came. It was temporary until Jesus came to fulfil it. The law was our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ so we would know how sinful we were. So that we might be justified by faith alone. Now that we have the gift of faith, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

John 1:17 NKJV

"For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ."

Today, believers are under the law of loving God and others by Grace. These are the two commandments Jesus gave (Matthew 22:37–40). Verse 40 says, "The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments."

Let's look at 1 John 5:2–3 and what this passage is not saying.

1 John 5:2–3

"We know we love God's children if we love God and obey his commandments. 3 Loving God means keeping his commandments, and his commandments are not burdensome."

This passage is not saying. Keep the commandments to earn God's love. It's saying if you understood the love of God, you'd keep His Commandments. If you truly comprehend how much Jesus loves you and the price He paid to reconcile you to the Father, you would serve Him willingly. You'd experience a whole new joy and peace in your relationship with God. We are supposed to be ministering His message, saying what He told us to say. We must preach that God is not angry with people.

God Chooses to Forget Every Stupid Thing We Have Done.

God cannot forget stuff. But He chooses not to remember our sins. That's a good reason to believe and receive His forgiveness and unlimited love. We don't have to do everything right, but we do have to accept forgiveness. If you've messed up so badly that you think God doesn't love you. That's not what Scripture says. Galatians 5:6 says, "For when we place our faith in Christ Jesus, there is no benefit in being circumcised or being uncircumcised. What is important is faith expressing itself in love." Now, that's our awesome God.

2 Corinthians 5:20 NKJV again

"We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God."

**God Has Reconciled Himself To You. He Has
Forgiven Your Sins And Taken Them Away.**

He is not angry with you. Will you reconcile yourself to Him and accept that your sins are forgiven forever? Will you accept what He has said about you?

2 Corinthians 5 verse 21

"For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ."

God Does Not Ignore Sin.

He does not hold them against you. He paid for your sins through the Lord Jesus by taking your sin into Himself, and He made you the righteousness of God. He paid the penalty in full. God sees us as righteous, holy, and pure because our sins have been obliterated (Psalm 103:12), and He will not remember them (Hebrews 8:12).

The war is over.

ISAIAH 40:1–2 ESV

"Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. 2 Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins."

ISAIAH 40:1–2 NLT

"Comfort, comfort my people," says your God. 2 "Speak tenderly to Jerusalem. Tell her that her sad days are gone and her sins are pardoned. Yes, the LORD has punished her twice over for all her sins."

Isaiah 40 is a prophetic passage that speaks about Jesus. It is not talking about how Jerusalem had suffered enough. God says, "Her war is over." "Her sins are pardoned." This war refers to the war God had with humanity for their sins. It's saying that when the Messiah comes, He is going to bear your sins. The warfare will be over because your sins will have been paid for—pardoned.

God our Father put twice as much wrath on His Son as the entire human race was worthy of receiving. Jesus bore our sins, paid the wages, and the penalty— the warfare is over. The rest of Isaiah 40 is prophetically speaking of Jesus and what He would accomplish when He came. John the Baptist proclaimed to the people that the wrath of God had been satisfied. The war is over.

God is no longer angry with us. Jesus took our sins into His own body on the cross. 1 Peter 2:24 ESV says, "He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree." He had to become sin so that we could become the righteousness of God. The rest of 1 Peter 2:24 says, "He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed." The Father

forsook His own Son so that you and I would not be forsaken. He totally rejected Jesus So that we wouldn't be rejected, everything you ever suffered, He suffered for you. Isaiah 53:3-4 tells us that Jesus took all our sorrow, grief and misery upon Himself. He didn't have any grief of his own to bear; He had never done anything to cause him grief. The only thing you can do is either believe and receive or doubt and do without.

Do We Have To Ask For Forgiveness Every Time We Sin?

What did the Lamb of God come to do? John 1:29 says, "The next day John (The Baptist) saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

Did Jesus succeed in accomplishing that?

The New Testament constantly teaches that Jesus took all our sins away on the cross. Read Colossians 1:13–14; 2:13; Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:22; Romans 8:1; Romans 5:13; 2 Corinthians 5:19; Romans 5:13.

The Old Covenant scapegoat carried the sins away, never to return. Jesus took away our sins so that they would never return.

Acts 13:38–39

"Brothers, listen! We are here to proclaim that through this man Jesus there is forgiveness for your sins. 39 Everyone who believes in him is made right in God's sight—something the law of Moses could never do."

Following Jesus' death and resurrection, forgiveness of sins is announced as a done deal. Paul preached to a synagogue full of people who had never heard the Gospel. This is the Good News people need to hear. They could never be permanently forgiven or freed under the Old Covenant. All they had to do was believe and accept their forgiveness. Through Jesus, we can believe that we are forever forgiven and freed from our sins because He is the perfect sacrifice.

Do We Have To Confess Our Sins To Be Forgiven?

Nowhere in the Bible does it state that forgiveness of sins is based on the confession of sin. You're forgiven, not because you repented but because He has borne all your sins. Ephesians 1:7 MSG says, "Because of the sacrifice of the Messiah, his blood poured out on the altar of the Cross, we're a free people—free of penalties and punishments chalked up by all our misdeeds." It is all by grace, and there is no way any person can confess all their sins perfectly.

James 2:10

"For the person who keeps all of the laws except one is as guilty as a person who has broken all of God's laws."

Question

Are we right with God because we confessed all our sins perfectly? Or, because of the one sacrifice of Jesus for sins forever? Which is it? You can't have both at the same time.

What about 1 John 1:9? Good Question.

1 John 1:9

"But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness."

Firstly, we cannot build a doctrine based on one verse in the bible. The teaching needs to be established or confirmed by other verses. Paul wrote over two-thirds of the New Covenant and did not make the slightest mention of confession of sins. Why? The Corinthians were into immorality, and he did not teach them to fess up to be forgiven. Instead, he said, "Don't you realise that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself" (1 Corinthians 6:19).

We must know who we are and how God sees us because that is the key to victory over sin. Our forgiveness of sin is according to the riches of grace already poured out for us.

1 John 1:9 was written to the Gnostics. To gain a better understanding, we must consider the context of the letter. Who was it written to?

When we compare 1 John with the greetings found in 2 and 3 John, we see that John greets believers in a different manner. In 2 John 1:1, John writes, "This letter is from John, the elder. I am writing to the chosen lady and to her children, whom I love in the truth—as does everyone else who knows the truth—" and 3 John 1:1 says, "This letter is from John, the elder. I am writing to Gaius, my dear friend, whom I love in the truth."

There are no greetings to believers in 1 John because John was addressing the Gnostics who had infiltrated the early church. Gnostics do not believe in the existence of sin. So John wrote,

1 John 1:8–10

"If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to

cleanse us from all wickedness. If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that his word has no place in our hearts."

Paul wanted the Gnostics to acknowledge the truth that they had sinned. In fact, all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). He wanted them to have fellowship with one another.

1 John 1:5-7

"This is the message we heard from Jesus and now declare to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all. So we are lying if we say we have fellowship with God but go on living in spiritual darkness; we are not practicing the truth. But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin."

Paul was preaching to non-believers here about Jesus and His finished work. He was inviting them to fellowship with the other believers. When we prayed the salvation prayer, we were made right with God and reconciled. But we were already forgiven.

In chapter 2 of the same letter, John wrote, "He himself is the sacrifice that atones for our sins—and not only our sins but the sins of all the world" (1 John 2:2). Here, John is addressing believers because

1 John 2:1 says, "My dear children, I am writing this to you so that you will not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate who pleads our case before the Father. He is Jesus Christ, the one who is truly righteous."

We Can't Confess in Order To Be Forgiven Because Our Sins Have Been Forgiven.

1 John 2:12

"I am writing to you who are God's children, because your sins have been forgiven through Jesus."

We need to become righteousness-conscious, not sin-conscious because Grace is here.

I Am Not Condoning Sin In Any Form.

I am not condoning sin in any form, But when we yield to sin, we open the door to the devil to mess with us. The enemy will come in! But, God will say out of His love, "Please don't do that; I am not holding this against you, and I don't want the devil to have an inroad into your life."

The Guilt, Condemnation and Unworthiness Is Not From God

Religion is what makes you think God is angry or that He has forsaken you. God is not the author of condemnation; our consciences condemn us. Romans 8:1 says, "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."

God is not angry, even though some would say God won't bless you or forgive you if you don't repent, This is not the Gospel of Peace. Not the true Gospel.

Jesus Paid For Not Only The Sins of Believers But Those of The Whole World

1 John 2:2 NLT says, "He himself is the sacrifice that atones for our sins—and not only our sins but the sins of all the world." The world refers to everyone on the planet. Jesus, plus, nothing equals everything. Our effort equals nothing. All sin has been paid for, and God is not imputing our sins to us (2 Corinthians 5:19).

God Is Not Counting Our sins Against Us

2 Corinthians 5:19 says, "For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation."

Now let's look at John 12:31–33

"The time for judging this world has come, when Satan, the ruler of this world, will be cast out. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself." He said this to indicate how he was going to die."

Judgement is the topic of verse 31, and in verse 33, we see that Jesus said what verse 32 signified: "what death He would die." He was not talking about "If we preach the right message, everyone will come." He was referring to His approaching death on the cross. The topic of judgement carries over to verse 32. Jesus was saying, "When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw God's judgement toward the entire human race to Myself."

God Punished Jesus With The Punishment We Deserved.

It has been accomplished. Romans 8:1 reminds us that "There is now no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus." The word condemnation means judgement. God judged sin in the flesh of Jesus once and for all.

Romans 8:3

"The law of Moses was unable to save us because of the weakness of our sinful nature. So God did what the law could not do. He sent his own Son in a body like the bodies we sinners have. And in that body God declared an end to sin's control over us by giving his Son as a sacrifice for our sins."

This Is the Simple Gospel!

God can't forsake us because Jesus was forsaken for us. We will never be separated from God because Jesus was separated for us. We will never be punished because God punished Jesus in our place. We can sin, and God will still love us because He's already placed all our sins on Jesus. However, it is stupid to give Satan an inroad into your life. Sin defiles your conscience. We hurt others, and we feel shame.

Works Stop The Flow of Grace.

Romans 11:6 NLT

"And since it is through God's kindness, then it is not by their good works. For in that case, God's Grace would not be what it really is—free and undeserved."

It is a matter of believing and receiving. If it is by Grace, then it cannot be by works. And if it is by works, it is no longer Grace. A gift cannot be earned. What is free cannot be bought. What is unmerited cannot be deserved or earned.

Look at Ephesians 1:5–7

"God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. 6 So we praise God for the glorious Grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son. 7 He is so rich in kindness and Grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins."

Like Paul, I am not ashamed of telling people that God has paid for their sins. I'm a very 'Cross' person. The Gospel is the power of

God unto Salvation. The Grace of God brings salvation to the world.

Titus 2:11–12 NLT

"For the Grace of God has been revealed, bringing salvation to all people. 12 And we are instructed to turn from godless living and sinful pleasures. We should live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness, and devotion to God,"

When we truly understand the gift of Grace, we'll live holier, and we'll serve God out of a pure heart. "God saved you by his Grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God" (Ephesians 2:8). By Grace, Jesus paid for the sins of the whole world, but we must receive that forgiveness and Grace for it to affect us. Titus 2:11 says, "For the Grace of God has been revealed, bringing salvation to all people."

Everyone Has Grace Extended To Them

Even someone like Adolf Hitler, who committed horrendous atrocities, had Grace extended to him. But as far as we know, Hitler never received his forgiveness. He rejected the payment for his sins. This is true for all who never accept Jesus.

Think About This

The people who reject Jesus already have had their sins forgiven. Then what's the point of getting saved? For people to be saved individuals must receive what God has already done for them.

We are as clean, holy and pure as Jesus Himself.

1 John 4:17 NLT

"And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we live like Jesus here in this world."

Body, Soul And Spirit

When I look in the mirror, that's my physical body and when my attitudes and feelings are out of line. That's my soul. It is our spirits that have been born again and created in righteousness and true holiness (Ephesians 2:24). We find out about our spirit from the Word of God. Jesus said in John 6:33, "The words I speak to you, they are spirit, and they are life."

James 1:23–25 NLT

"For if you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. 24 You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. 25 But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it."

Ephesians 1:3 says, "God blessed us with every spiritual blessing. "We are new creations, new people. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says. "This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!" Our born-again spirits are not defiled or ungodly. We were sealed with the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit has sealed the deal.

Ephesians 1:13 ESV says, "In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit." And 1 Corinthians 6:17 ESV says, "He that is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him." We have been sealed with the promised Holy Spirit. It's a done deal!

Ephesians 1:13 NKJV

"In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the Gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise."

Ephesians 4:24 tells us to "put on the new man, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness." Sealed by the Holy Spirit so no sin can penetrate it—the righteousness you were born again with remains uncontaminated. So we can approach God with confidence. Our spirits become like Jesus' right here in this world. (1 John 4:17). "Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world."

The Righteousness Of God

You are the righteousness of God. That same power that raised Jesus from the dead is inside you.

2 Corinthians 5:21 ESV

"For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

Ephesians 1:18–20 NLT

"I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance. 19 I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power 20 that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms."

We don't have to pray for God to send power down or believe that demons are stopping our prayer. That's not biblical. Following Jesus' death and resurrection, forgiveness of sins is announced as a done deal.

Paul preached to a synagogue full of people who had never heard the Gospel. They could never be permanently forgiven or freed under the Old Covenant. All they had to do was believe and accept their forgiveness. Through Jesus, we can believe that we are forever forgiven and freed from our sins because He is the perfect sacrifice.

The Really Good News

God has forgiven the sin you have not committed yet. Jesus died over 2000 years ago, and God knows the beginning from the end. He knew the sins of the entire world and took them all and put them on Jesus, who paid the death penalty on behalf of all humanity. Now, humanity must actively and aggressively accept that truth. That's good news because, when it comes to salvation, nothing is impossible for God. Give Him a chance, and humbly accept what He has done.

“It is finished.”