

God Is a Forgiving God

August 25, 2013

I. Points we have covered:

- A. Through the New Covenant, God forgives our sins.
Heb 8:12 "For I will be merciful to their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more."
- B. God forgives sins through the sacrifice of Jesus.
Rom 3:23-25 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed;
- C. Jesus often forgave people their sins without them asking.
The paralytic (Matt 9:2-8; Mark 2:4-12; Luke 5:19-26)
The woman who washes His feet with her tears (Luke 7:44-50).
The woman caught in adultery (John 8:1-11).
The thief on the cross (Luke 23:39-43).
- D. God's love causes Him to forgive our sins.
Mic 7:18-20 ... Because He delights in unchanging love... You will cast all their sins Into the depths of the sea. You will give ... unchanging love to Abraham, Which You swore to our forefathers From the days of old.

Even human love covers sins.
Prov 10:12 But love covers all transgressions.
1 Peter 4:8 love covers a multitude of sins.

II. Redemption is forgiveness of sins

Eph 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace

Col 1:13-14 For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

III. God has forgiven all sin.

Eph 4:32 Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

Col 2:13-14 When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

1 John 2:12 I am writing to you, little children, because your sins have been forgiven you for His name's sake.

Forgiveness "1 TREE + 3 NAILS = 4 GIVEN"
(Author unknown)

"When Christ's hands were nailed to the cross, he also nailed your sins to the cross."
Bernard of Clairvaux

IV. God is a forgiving God

1. God forgives because of His love while at the same time punishing the guilty.

Ex 34:7 who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin; yet He will by no means leave the guilty unpunished,

Num 14:18 The LORD is slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, forgiving iniquity and transgression; but He will by no means clear the guilty,

2. God forgives and brings us into His presence.

Ps 65:3-4 Iniquities prevail against me; As for our transgressions, You forgive them. How blessed is the one whom You choose and bring near to You To dwell in Your courts. We will be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, Your holy temple.

3. God forgives because of His abundant mercy, and does not forsake us

Neh 9:17-19 They refused to listen, And did not remember Your wondrous deeds which You had performed among them; So they became stubborn and appointed a leader to return to their slavery in Egypt. But You are a God of forgiveness, Gracious and compassionate, Slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness; And You did not forsake them. Even when they made for themselves A calf of molten metal And said, 'This is your God Who brought you up from Egypt,' And committed great blasphemies, You, in Your great compassion, Did not forsake them in the wilderness; The pillar of cloud did not leave them by day, To guide them on their way, Nor the pillar of fire by night, to light for them the way in which they were to go.

Ps 86:5 For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, And abundant in lovingkindness to all who call upon You.

4. There is forgiveness with God.

Ps 130:2-4 Lord, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive To the voice of my supplications. If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You, That You may be feared.

Ps 103:2-3 Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget none of His benefits; Who pardons all your iniquities,
Who heals all your diseases;

Isa 43:24-25 Rather you have burdened Me with your sins, You have wearied Me with your iniquities. I, even I, am the one who wipes out your transgressions for My own sake, And I will not remember your sins.

5. Forgiveness belongs to the Lord

Dan 9:8-9 Open shame belongs to us, O Lord, to our kings, our princes and our fathers, because we have sinned against You. To the Lord our God belong compassion and forgiveness, for we have rebelled against Him;

6. Jonah ran from his call because he did not want God to forgive Nineveh

Jonah 4:2 He prayed to the LORD and said, "Please LORD, was not this what I said while I was still in my own country? Therefore in order to forestall this I fled to Tarshish, for I knew that You are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, and one who relents concerning calamity.

7. God forgives; His thoughts are higher than ours

Isa 55:6-9 Seek the LORD while He may be found; Call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way And the unrighteous man his thoughts; And let him return to the LORD, And He will have compassion on him, And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon. For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts.

Our thinking	God's promise
It's impossible	All things are possible (Luke 18:27)
I'm too tired	I will give you rest (Mat 11:28-30)
Nobody really loves me	I love you (John 3:16; 13:34)
I can't go on	My grace is sufficient (2 Cor 12:9)
I can't figure things out	I will direct your steps (Prov 3:5-6)
I can't do it	You can do all things in Christ (Phil 4:13)
I'm not able	I am able (1 Cor 9:8)
It's not worth it	It will be worth it (Rom 8:28)
I can't forgive myself	I forgive you (1 John 1:9)
I can't manage	I will supply all of your needs (Phil 4:19)
I'm afraid	I haven't given you a spirit of fear (2 Tim 1:7)
I'm always worried and frustrated	Cast all your anxiety on me (1 Peter 5:7)
I don't have enough faith	I've given you a measure of faith (Rom 12:3)
I'm not smart enough	I give you wisdom (1 Cor 1:30)
I feel all alone	I will never leave or forsake you (Heb 13:5)