

Forgiven – 8/11/24

TEXT – Psalms 32:1-11 *Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered . . .*

INTRO – Definition - The Christian doctrine of forgiveness is that God has lifted the sentence of condemnation upon Christians for their sins through the death of Christ on their behalf and no longer counts them as guilty.

- We are to forgive others
- God can forgive us
- Others can forgive us

Forgive – 56 Forgiveness – 7 Forgiven – 42 Forgiving – 4
Forgave - 9

Matthew 6:12 *And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. All mankind is plagued with guilt.*

I. The Need For Forgiveness

Who needs forgiveness? All men born of Adam Rom. 5:12

Psalms 51:5 *Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.*

Luke 19:10 *For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.*

Mark 2:17 *When Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.*

Romans 3:10-11 *As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: 11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.*

Romans 3:23 *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*

Romans 8:1 *There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.*

Isaiah 64:6 *But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.*

1 John 1:8 *If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*

II. Who Can Forgive?

God alone - Mark 2:10 *But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins,*

Sin is against God

Sin against man is also sin against God

David's sin was against Uriah but it was also a sin against God.

Ephesians 1:7 *In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;*

Hebrews 9:22 *And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.*

III. What Is Forgiveness?

- **Forgiveness, the Church, and Christian Devotion**

Forgiveness is a deliberate act of love, mercy, and grace. Forgiveness is a decision to not hold something against another person, despite what he or she has done.

- **What is forgiveness in relation to salvation?**

Forgiveness is an integral part of salvation. When Jesus forgives us, our sins, trespasses, iniquities, and transgressions are erased, wiped off the record.

Forgiveness of sin is comparable to financial debt being erased. When Jesus said, "It is finished," from the cross (John 19:30), He was literally saying, "It is paid in full" (*tetelestai* in Greek). Jesus took the punishment we deserved, so, when God forgives us of our sins, we are free; we no longer live under that debt. Our sins are wiped out. God will never hold that sin against

Psalms 103:10-12 *He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. 11 For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. 12 As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.*

It is impossible to have salvation without forgiveness. Salvation is God's deliverance from the consequences of sin. God's salvation in Christ is the ultimate example of forgiveness. God's forgiveness must be accepted through repentance and faith. **How can we be worthy to worship God?**

Micah 7:19 . . . *thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.*

IV. How Are We Forgiven?

- **Recognition – See the consequences**

Luke 18:10-14 *Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. 11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. 12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. 13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. 14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.*

- **Repentance – There must be remorse Ps. 51**

- **Restoration – Back into God’s favor. He forgives!**

Psalms 51:7 *Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.*

An unclean person would come to the priest to find cleansing. The priest would dip hyssop in a basin of blood and sprinkle it on the former leper and commit him to be clean to worship God.

V. Safeguards of Forgiveness

A. David’s sin was revealed by the prophet Nathan

David was made to see his sin that had been hidden for so long.

2 Samuel 12:12-13 *For thou didst it secretly: but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun. 13 And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.*

B. David condemns his own actions

Psalms 51:4 *Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.*

C. David received comfort from the Word of God.

2 Samuel 12:13 *And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.*

D. David recognized How His Sin Affected Others

The baby would die and his family would have conflicts

VI. We Must Forgive Others As Christ Has Forgiven Us.

Ephesians 4:32 *And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.*

Matthew 6:15 *But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.*

Matthew 18:21-22 *Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? 22 Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.*

James 3:14 *But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.*

Ephesians 4:26-27 *Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: 27 Neither give place to the devil.*

CONCL – Every believer can have peace with God. **Philippians 4:7** *And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*