

# The Mystery of **FORGIVENESS**

By

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# INTRODUCTION

The topic of forgiveness is the most largely misunderstood and misrepresented topics among believers. It is the bedrock of the New Testament. When God made the promise of the New Testament, it was hinged on the promise

“For I will for forgive their iniquities. And remember their sins no more.”

However, many people have seen forgiveness as something you must work for. Instead of being a gift (Grace), they see it as a reward for some works you do.

Others have seen forgiveness as some gradual daily continuous thing, hence we must keep asking God for it so that He can keep forgiving.

Others have treated forgiveness as an emotional issue. Beg God very very well and He will forgive you. Cry and tell Him you are sooooo sorry and He will pity you and forgive you. These are various misconception about forgiveness.

In this series, we examined the topic of forgiveness from the New Testament view, through the finished works of Christ on the cross. We unraveled the mystery of forgiveness with clarity.

Why would God forgive sins?

How would God forgive sins?

How frequently does God forgive sins?

Do we need to LIST sins committed to God when we pray?

What happens AFTER forgiveness?

All these and many more were explored during this series. Also, thorough exegesis was done on some misunderstood verses.

It is one series you will be so blessed with. Take your time. Read through every article and every part. Pray through it and let the Lord inscribe in your heart the enormous effects of the cross and the finished works.

If you have any question, feel free to send it to me through my facebook account or through my email below:

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# The Mystery of Forgiveness. Part 1

"The wages of sin is DEATH...." Romans 6:23. NOT physical death but Spiritual death.

The death Jesus died was more spiritual than physical. The nailing on the cross was only the doorway to the Spiritual death.

He died spiritually when "HE WAS MADE SIN FOR US,.....".

"For our sake God made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." 2 Corinthians 5:21.

Because God's eyes CANNOT behold sin, God had to forsake His Son, at the point when He became sin for us.

That was when Jesus cried out on the cross

"My God My God why have you forsaken me"...

He became spiritually separated from God because He carried ALL our sins upon Him...

Thus God's wrath has been satisfied in Him. Because He paid the penalty of sins FOR ALL - the Spiritual death. That was when He fulfilled His role as "The Lamb of God who took away the sins of the world."

The wages of sin (spiritual death for ALL) has been paid by Him on the cross.

All human 's sins have been forgiven IN CHRIST.

But for anyone to enjoy that benefit; He must be located IN CHRIST. Because the sins were only forgiven IN CHRIST.

That is why the Bible says

"IN HIM we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace" Ephesians 1:7

"in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." Colossians 1:14

"If any man is IN CHRIST, he is a new creature"

Those who are NOT IN HIM are not credited with the forgiveness unfortunately because the wrath is only satisfied IN CHRIST...

And that is what brings the issue of believing in Christ's death and resurrection as the necessary and sufficient condition for Salvation. It is the RECEIVING of God's Gift. .. Remember, a Gift is NOT complete until it is RECEIVED...

Whoever does not believe does NOT receive the free gift of forgiveness in HIS NAME... GOD ONLY FORGIVES IN HIS NAME. Because only Him paid the price...

So when a person believes on Him, He RECEIVES the already purchased total forgiveness...

Bible says:

By Grace, you are saved, THRU FAITH..." That is the receiving medium.

While Jesus died for the whole world, He is in heaven interceding NOT for the whole world but those who comes to God thru Him.

And His presence at God's right hand is the intercession, the proof of our righteousness and the seal of our eternal security in Him.

Hebrews 7:25

"Therefore he is able to SAVE COMPLETELY those who come to God THROUGH HIM, because he always lives to intercede for them." (NIV)

"Consequently, he is able to SAVE TO THE UTMOST those who draw near to God THROUGH HIM, since he always lives to make intercession for them" (ESV).

So, God's forgiveness is NOT random. It was paid for LEGALLY.

But it is located IN CHRIST because He paid for it.

IT IS DONE for those who come to God thru Him. We have been TOTALLY forgiven. And we are in the realm where the forgiveness is located - IN CHRIST.

Go for part 2 below. It is a detailed exegesis on the topic of forgiveness.

You are eternally loved and flamboyantly accepted IN CHRIST!

# The Mystery of Forgiveness - Part 2

## Walking in the Light

**This is a detailed exegesis on 1 John 1:5-10 to 1 John 2;2.**

(This note will change your life FOR GOOD forever, and please read it to the end)

As a necessary background, Divine forgiveness does NOT just come because you plead for it. A law has been broken, justice must be served. Forgiveness is NOT an emotional issue, it is a LEGAL issue. "The penalty of sin is SPIRITUAL DEATH". That is the legal penalty and must be paid.

Romans 5:8.

"But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

God came down as a man, Christ Jesus,(a sinless man - Second Adam) and paid this legal penalty for us. "HE BECAME SIN FOR US..."

"Hebrews 2:9

"Christ tasted (Experienced) DEATH for every man..

He carried all the sins of the whole world, (from the infinite past to the infinite future) and legally paid for ALL the sins, He was slain as the Lamb of God who took away the sins of the whole world. Thus, God's wrath was DIVERTED, SATISFIED and FULFILLED in CHRIST. The penalty for sin was paid by His single sacrifice.

And He announced on the cross "IT IS FINISHED". In effect, He was saying "I have done it ALL. I have paid it ALL for you. Now, you are no longer bound by sin" Shout Alleluyah somebody. Gloryyyy!!!

No wonder, 2 Corinthians 5:19 says

"For God, IN CHRIST, was reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them...."

Did you just read that? After Christ died, the definition of forgiveness changed from "sinning and being forgiven" to "God no longer count / impute people's sins against them" Wow!

But wait a minute, there is a phrase in that verse. God was doing this awesome forgiveness formula - IN CHRIST. This forgiveness is not located just anywhere in the blue, or in any philosophy or religious practice, the forgiveness is located IN CHRIST.

## **This has two implications:**

**First**, to enjoy this forgiveness, you must be IN CHRIST. That is why being born again into Christ matters.

2 Corinthians 5:17

"If any man is IN CHRIST, he is a new creature..."

So, this forgiveness is only credited to those in Christ, those who have become God's children through faith in Christ.

**Second**, For as many as IN CHRIST, we already have this "sin no longer counted against us" forgiveness.

Forgiveness is no longer what we need, because WE HAVE IT, so it is no longer part of our prayer request. "For what man yet prays for what he already has? " .

Let's confirm this CLEARLY in the Scriptures - at least 3 outstanding verses:

Ephesians 1:7

""IN HIM WE HAVE redemption through his blood, THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS, in accordance with the riches of God's grace"

Colossians 1:14

"IN WHOM WE HAVE redemption, THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS."

Do you see that? We already have forgiveness in Him.

Romans 4:7-8

"Blessed are those whose iniquities are forgiven, whose sins are covered; Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord will never count against him."

The good news is: YOU ARE THAT MAN WHOSE SIN THE LORD WILL NO LONGER COUNT AGAINST YOU. I AM THAT MAN. WE ARE THOSE MEN - if and only if we are IN CHRIST, where the forgiveness is located. Is somebody excited in the house this morning/evening? Give God a great shout....

**Now, starting the exegesis on 1 John 1**, I will like to start by quoting

### **1 John 1:5 - 7**

"5. This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that **GOD IS LIGHT** and in Him is no darkness at all.

6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin."

In these verses, John the Beloved declared that because **GOD IS LIGHT**, there is **NO DARKNESS IN HIM** at all. That means the light John was about to talk is **NOT** some sets of principles, or some pious lifestyle. **THE LIGHT IS GOD HIMSELF**.

He then showed us there are **SOME PEOPLE** who are claiming to have fellowship with God, yet they walk in darkness.

God is light, and **IN HIM** is no darkness at all. Some folks however were walking in darkness, but **THEY ARE CLAIMING** to have fellowship with God who is light. This serves as **CONTRADICTION**, a lie. They claim to fellowship with God, yet they are **NOT** in the light. That **CANNOT** be true.

**Remember this is not a question of behavior, but location - WHERE YOU ARE.** Those people walk **IN DARKNESS**, yet they claim they are in the light.

**So, the next question is "How can I know I am IN THE LIGHT?"** Since it is so important every man settles it once and for all, whether or not he is in the light".

Jesus answered this question in John 12:46 and John 8:12

### **John 12:46**

"I have come into the world as light, so that **WHOEVER BELIEVES IN ME** will **NOT** remain in darkness." -JESUS. Wooooow!

### **John 8:12**

"Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." Gloryyyy!!!

### **Here is the biggest one: Colossians 1:12- 14**

"12. Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the **INHERITANCE** of the saints **IN THE LIGHT**.

13He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of His beloved Son,

14 **IN WHOM** we have redemption, the **FORGIVENESS OF SINS**"

We can see that all these verses are talking about the same thing. BEING IN GOD = BEING IN CHRIST = BEING IN THE LIGHT. Because God is Light. Christ is Light.

So, the earlier question is answered here. How do I know I am in the light? WHOEVER BELIEVES IN CHRIST IS NOT IN DARKNESS BUT IN THE LIGHT OF LIFE. Jesus said so above. That means If I am IN CHRIST, I AM IN THE LIGHT.

This is NOT about behavior. It is about where you are located. You can be in the light (Christ) and behave bad sometimes (of course we are not encouraging this). But that does NOT make you to be in darkness.

The same way an unbeliever can do good and behave well, yet that does NOT make him to be in the light.

THE ONLY WAY TO BE IN THE LIGHT IS BY PUTTING YOUR FAITH IN CHRIST AS YOUR SAVIOR. No more, no less.

1 John 1:5-7 equals to Colossians 1:12 - 14.

Colossians clearly puts it that when you are in the light, you enjoy the inheritance of the saints, one of it is FORGIVENESS OF SINS. This is exactly what John was saying....

"But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin" (1 John 1:7).

All those who believe in Christ who are in the light, have fellowship with one another, and His Blood automatically cleanses us from all sins. HIS BLOOD DOES NOT LET SIN ATTACHED / IMPUTED TO US. It is automatic if and only if you are in the Light by putting your faith in Christ. This also means there might be some sinful acts, but we are automatically cleansed from them, because the blood continues to cleanse - non stop. ALLELUIA....

We CAN NOT be associated with any sin IN CHRIST. . Why? Because IN CHRIST, where we have forgiveness, and God does not count sins against us. (all the earlier verses).

**So, let us continue the exegesis. We will then look verses 8-10 -**

"8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us."

Now, Let us look at these from verse 9 to see the result of "confession" of sin, and then we will later examined what is this confession of sin?



**The result of the "confession" of sin according to verse 9 is forgiveness, being cleansed from all unrighteousness. Did you see that?**

But verse 7 says:

"For those in the light (Christ), there is automatic cleansing from all sins / unrighteousness"

That means both verses 7 and 9 have the same result.

Those in the light (verse 7) **ALREADY HAVE THE RESULT** that those who need to confess sin in verse 8 and 9 are trying to get - the forgiveness and continuous cleansings from all sins. Did you get that? **WOW.**

This shows that verse 8 and 9 is simply trying to get those people into the "IN LIGHT (IN CHRIST) " position, where there is forgiveness of sin /continuous cleansing from sin.

It's like John was saying "Those in Christ have forgiveness, and the blood of Christ continues to flow so that no sin can be attached. But some of you need to get the same forgiveness and continuous cleansing, you therefore need to **CONFESS** your sin to have that.

## **So, who are these people in verses 8-10?**

The use of "WE" indicates whoever satisfies the condition. **IT MEANS WHOSOEVER DOES THIS GETS THIS...**

**Verse 8 defines the condition "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves..."**

Whoever satisfies verse 8 condition needs verse 9. That is what "WE" mean.

These are the people who **CLAIMED** they had **NO SIN**. They denied the existence of their sin. God said "there was sin and there needs to be forgiveness of sins". They said "There is no sin, and no need for forgiveness". Therefore, they did not believe a need for the Savior.

Now, these were the same people John was talking about in the verses 5-7, they claim they had "FELLOWSHIP" with the Light, but they were located in darkness. Fellowship is some kind of temporary visit (communion) of two parties. What God wanted from us is **NOT** just fellowship, but **DWELLING** in the light - being divinely located in the Light.

These group of people were in the church then, and they are still in the church today. Jesus had one of them among His physical disciple - Judas Iscariot. He was fellowshiping with those in the light, yet because he refused to put his faith in Christ, he was still walking in darkness..

THESE GROUP OF PEOPLE FELLOWSHIP WITH THE SAINTS IN LIGHT, BUT THEY THEMSELVES HAVE NOT PERSONALLY TRANSLATED FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT. They physically fellowship with the saints in light.

But they thought that fellowship equals being in the light themselves. John was writing to warn them that they were living a life of a lie. They were in darkness but because they were gathering with God's people, they thought and claimed they are fellowshiping with the light, so that should count for being in the light. JOHN SAID NO.

**There is no short cut. You must be snatched from the kingdom of darkness and translated to enjoy the inheritance of the saints in the light (Colossians 1:12-12 - 14).**

He then focused on their particular issue. They deny existence of their sins, and consequently, they must confess their sins.

Now THE CONFESSION OF SIN that John was asking them to do was NOT to list their sins. But to admit they were in sin, to agree with God that they are sinners, despite their religiosity.

**The Greek word translated as "confess" in that verse is "homologeō" which means "to say the same thing as another, not to deny, but to declare, to admit, to agree to a charge:"**

This totally contradicts the misinterpretation of asking people to LIST sins. Not even a sinner do you tell to list sins before they can be forgiven. How much sins can they list? How much sins can you remember to list to God? Do you even know all the sins?

John, by the Spirit of God, was trying to help these folks who confused church attendance/fellowship with being in the Light (Being in Christ). That they must come to the same term with God on the issue of sin. They must admit their sin and their need for a Savior, and believe on Him, so that their sins can be forgiven, and will no longer be imputed against them.

Again for clarity, does a believer fit into this description? A believer is someone who agreed he was a sinner and needed a Savior and believed in the death of Jesus to obtain forgiveness and a Gift of FOREVER RIGHTEOUS before God. And He is actually located in Christ and has now been declared righteous. **BELIEVERS ARE NOT LIVING BY SIN-DENIAL, WE ARE LIVING BY SIN-FORGIVENESS.**

So, in summary, John in verses 5 - 7, was displaying the inheritance of true believers - the forgiveness located in the light, which you automatically get because if you are in the light - IN CHRIST. This also agrees with all the other verses that talked about our forgiveness after the cross. But he was warning those who because they were gathering (fellowshipping) with those in light, did not know they were still in darkness. And their problem was diagnosed, they never admitted their sins and their need for a Savior. If they do, they will truly be translated from darkness into light and no longer in sin. Gloryyyyyy!!!

## **Now, the very next verses - 1 John 2:1**

"1. My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

2 And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world."

Now, see how John started this part, **My little children**, do not commit sinful acts.. But even if it happens, no need to be afraid, we have an advocate - an intercessor, who is able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him.

Spot the difference???

When John was particularly addressing His Spiritual children - the believers, he never asked them to confess (or list) sins. He just informed them that there they have forgiveness 100% IN CHRIST.

## **The Applications:**

It is natural to feel remorse when you blow it. But don't stay there. Strengthen yourself very quickly and move on. Here is how? Thank God that YOU ARE ALREADY FORGIVEN IN CHRIST and that YOU ARE HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS. Strengthen yourself by confessing who you are in Christ.

## **What is the Believer's Confession - Homologeo?**

The kind of confession that believers supposed to do daily. This is what you must AGREE with God about, and ADMIT every day even when you don't feel like it.

Sometimes, sinners DON'T FEEL like sinners but they are still sinners. Sometimes, the righteous DON'T FEEL like righteous, but we are still righteous. It is NOT about feeling, but the Truth.

Lastly, I will share what we must daily homologe to as believers, what we must agree with God about whether or not we feel like it. God says it and that is it. They are the inheritances of the saint IN LIGHT (OR IN CHRIST). You don't work for them. You inherit them by being in the light - IN CHRIST.

1. . "IN HIM, You have REDEMPTION, THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS" Colossians 1:14, Ephesians 1:7.

2."IN HIM are hidden all the TREASURES OF WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE" Colossians 2:3

3."For IN CHRIST all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form" In Christ, our new address, there dwell THE FULLNESS OF GOD'S NATURE. We can enjoy all the fullness of God's nature and His divine power in our present world, because they are located IN CHRIST.

4. "And YOU ARE COMPLETE IN HIM, who is the head of all principality and power:" Colossians 2:10

5. But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And IN HIM IS NO SIN" 1 John 3:5

6. "God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that IN HIM we might BECOME THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD. (2 Corinthians 5:21)

7. "And you also were included IN CHRIST when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked IN HIM WITH A SEAL, THE PROMISED HOLY SPIRIT," Ephesians 1:13

Woooooow. These are our IN LIGHT inheritances.

We must confess them and renew our minds to them. You have done enough confession of sins for a lifetime. Now, confess what God is saying about you.

Confess your righteousness in Christ. Confess your holiness, your victory, your healing and health, your spiritual blessings in the heavenly places. These are what we must confess daily and agree with God about. Because this is what God is saying about us.

As per sin, the Lord has taken them away from you. He is no longer counting your sins against you IN CHRIST. That is why there is no present or future sin for a believer. His blood continuously cleanses you from all sins and unrighteousness IN CHRIST.

Aren't you super-thrilled at these wonderful IN LIGHT inheritances.

**And if you fit into that category that you mistake fellowship with the people in light (even direct fellowship with Jesus like Judas) with being in the light, it is not too late.**

Agree with God that Jesus died for your sins and He resurrected for your justification. If you do that from your heart right now, the miracle of Salvation will happen and you will be translated from the kingdom of darkness to IN CHRIST (LIGHT) where you have God's Eternal Forgiveness credited into your account forever. Amen.

I will be soooooo glad to welcome you to the Kingdom of Light.

You are soooo loved eternally in Christ and flamboyantly accepted in the Beloved. Glorrrrrrrrrry!!!

# Jesus Christ - Our Atonement and Our Scapegoat.

## (How God confessed Our Sins)

If you study the Old Testament, confession of sins was done on the day of atonement. The high priest would confess all the sin of the people on the animal called "the scapegoat" and then release it to the wilderness, meaning "the animal bears / carries the sins of the people". The confession was a symbolic means of placing the sins of the nations on the animal. That was the purpose of confession of sins - to place the sins on the Scapegoat so the animal could bear the sins.

" Leviticus 16:21-22.

21"Then Aaron shall lay both of his hands on the head of the live goat, and confess over it all the iniquities of the sons of Israel and all their transgressions in regard to all their sins; and he shall lay them on the head of the goat and send it away into the wilderness by the hand of a man who stands in readiness.

22"The goat shall bear on itself all their iniquities to a solitary land; and he shall release the goat in the wilderness."

Now, this has been fulfilled in Christ, Jesus Christ is our scapegoat, because He carried ALL sins on the cross...

That was why He was called "The Lamb of God, who took (carried) away the sins of the world", the same way the Scapegoat carried away the sins of the Israelites...

This is what God did, Read Isaiah 53:6 below:

"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and THE LORD LAID ON HIM THE INIQUITY OF US ALL."

Did you just read that? God laid on Christ our iniquity the same way the high priest laid on the animal the iniquity of the Israelites...

Also, in 2 Corinthians 5:21, it was written

"God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."....

God laid our iniquity upon Christ, the same way the high priest laid the sins of the people upon the scapegoat, and thus, He made Christ to become sin, so we can become His righteousness.

God physically placed our sins upon Christ, Christ carried our sins, and **TOOK THEM AWAY ONCE AND FOR ALL ...**

So, all our sins have been confessed and laid upon Jesus and He took them away, by His blood on the cross.

Therefore we have become the **RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD...** And this happened once and for all...

In the Old Testament, the animal sacrifice and the scapegoat was repeated monthly, and yearly, because it never really took away the sins of the people, it only provided a covering, so they had to keep confessing those sins.

But Jesus Christ took away our sins by His once and for all time sacrifice, and did away with our sins.

Hebrews 10:1-4, 10.

"1The Law is only a shadow of the good things to come, not the realities themselves. It can never, by the same sacrifices offered year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship. 2 If it could, would not the offerings have ceased? For the worshipers would have been cleansed once for all and would no longer feel the guilt of their sins. 3 Instead, those sacrifices are an annual reminder of sins, 4 because it is impossible for the blood of bulls and of goats to take away sins.....

10And by that will, we have been sanctified through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all."

Gloryyy!!!!!!...

Jesus did away with our sins **ONCE AND FOR ALL...** Unlike the Old Testament where confession of sin and sacrifice was continuous as a means of reminder, to show that their sins was only covered for a time. In Christ, God said "**HE WILL REMEMBER OUR SINS NO MORE**" because it was done away with once and for all.

**So, to continuously remind God of what He has forgotten is to insult the sacrifice of Jesus and to maintain that He never took away sins once and for all as the Bible says...**

And the way God ensures the Believers are never stained with sins, is by placing us IN CHRIST...

1 John 3:5 says is all

"But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin."...

HE CARRIED AWAY OUR SINS, AND WE BECAME HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND THEN WE WERE PLACED IN HIM. AND IN HIM, THERE IS NO SIN.

In Christ where we are located, there is a continuous Light that automatically destroys every deeds of darkness, IN CHRIST, SIN CAN NOT SURVIVE... The blood of Jesus continuously cleanses us from sin, that is why there is no sin in Him and in us, because we are in Him....

That is why any day anytime you can stand boldly before God as holy and righteous... and without sin, all because your sins were carried away by Him and after that, you were placed in Him where sin cannot survive...

And God sees you as Christ every time, because He sees you in Christ... Glory to God!!!



# The Way God Views Sins

When Scribes and Pharisees came to Jesus in John 8 and brought their captive, the woman caught in adultery to Him. In their minds, they were all good guys but their captive was the bad guy.

But when Jesus confronted them with the question: whoever has not sinned, let him cast the 1st stone, they all realized they are all bad guys. They realized they were not better than their captive.

Before God, there is no category of sin. All sins are the same, whether it's the sin of fear, or bad thought, anger, arrogance/ pride, fornication or murder, or not doing a good thing at a time, thinking or talking bad of government, breaking a traffic law, they are all sins and have the same wages - DEATH.

Before Jesus, all are guilty. Both the "holier than thou" captors and their "big sinner" captive. All are EQUALLY guilty.

**But the good news is something has changed. . The cross has made all the difference. Forgiveness has been legally paid for, FOR ALL men - IN CHRIST.**

In Christ, we have been washed, made Holy. As far as the east is from the west, He has taken our sins far from us. IN HIM THERE IS NO SIN.

All we have in Him is forgiveness, no condemnation, righteousness and all Christ purchased for us.

HE HAS BESTOWED US WITH HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS, DRESSED US IN HIS TRULY WHITE ROBE AND MADE US SPOTLESS IN HIM!!! THAT IS OUR PRESENT REALITY. THAT IS WHO WE ARE IN HIM.

# LAWRY AND GRACIOUS CONVERSATION

**Lawry:** Brother Gracious, are you encouraging believers to CONSCIOUSLY do evil by saying their sins are already forgiven in Christ?

**Gracious:** No one is encouraging evil. We are rather preaching Christ TOTAL forgiveness which sets you free from sin and its consciousness....

**Lawry:** (cuts in) But what happened when a Believer sins CONSCIOUSLY?

**Gracious:** Lawry, please confirm you have not committed a sinful act in the last one month?

And also confirm you were in a state of coma (you fainted/ in unconscious state) when you committed those acts...

**Lawry:** (silence).....

Hope you got the point? No sin is unconscious, every sin is conscious. Stop focusing on that lie that only some people sin consciously,

BESIDES, WHEN YOU UNDERSTAND YOUR TOTAL FORGIVENESS AND YOUR GIFT OF NO-CONDEMNATION IN CHRIST, IT EMPOWERS YOU TO GO AND SIN NO MORE...

# About Forgiveness

To understand a little more about forgiveness in the New Testament, you might want to read this. I made this as a comment on a friend's post in response to someone who was making a show about confession of sins. So I had to go a bit comprehensive. I said to share because it will bless one or two other people. So, happy reading.

Lack of understanding of what Salvation means is what will make anyone to think asking for forgiveness is what guarantees forgiveness.

If that is true then, you were never saved to begin with. You are still in your sins. Because think about it: how many sins did you remember to confess at Salvation? Did you remember to confess ALL the sins you ever sinned from birth?

It therefore means all those sins you could not remember are not forgiven according to your theology.

What forgives sin is not asking for forgiveness but the shedding of blood.

Hebrews 9:22 says

"...Without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness of sins"

Muslims do ask for forgiveness more than any other religion. Is their sins forgiven just because they ask?

Why didn't God simply tell Adam and Eve to ask for forgiveness and everything would be okay?

Why did Jesus come to die?

For your information, forgiveness of sins is NOT an emotional issue, it is a legal issue. A Spiritual crime has been committed and a law has been broken, there must be penalty.

The penalty of sin is DEATH -SEPARATION FROM GOD.

It must be paid for there to be forgiveness.

Good news, it has been paid by Christ on the cross. And you simply access it by FAITH in Christ and His finished works.

"He that believes shall be saved".. Jesus said.  
He did NOT say" He that believes and ask for forgiveness."

Romans 10:9-10 makes clear the condition to accept Salvation. BELIEVE AND CONFESS CHRIST AS LORD.

And you receive God's forgiveness. ALL YOUR SINS ARE GONE.

As a matter of fact, when Jesus died, ALL our sins were future sins when Jesus died, and He paid for them ALL, ONCE AND FOR ALL.

Let me show you CLEARLY in the Scriptures that God is no longer counting men's sins against them if they are in Christ. Ready?

2 Corinthians 5:18-19

"18. All this is from God who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:. 19. That God was reconciling the world to Himself IN CHRIST, NOT COUNTING THEIR SINS AGAINST THEM. And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation. "

Did you read that? When you are reconciled to God IN CHRIST, HE NO LONGER COUNT YOUR SINS AGAINST YOU.

Let us see more:

Romans 4:7-9

"7. Blessed are those whose iniquities are forgiven, whose sins are covered;  
8. Blessed is the man whose sins the Lord will never count against him. 9. Are these blessings only on the circumcised or also on the uncircumcised?..."

Do you see that again?

The blessings of New Testament's forgiveness is NOT a gradual forgiveness but the Lord no longer count sin against anyone IN CHRIST.

Read more. Where God promised New Testament:

Hebrews 8:10-12

"This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days, I will put my laws in their minds..... 12. For I will forgive their iniquities and REMEMBER THEIR SINS NO MORE"

Is this clearly clear to you what the New Testament is about???

NOT THE GRADUAL DAILY AND YEARLY SACRIFICE FOR SINS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT BUT THE ONCE AND FOR ALL TIME SACRIFICE OF JESUS TO TAKE AWAY OUR SINS...

Please Read Hebrews 8 for better understanding of the Old and the New Testament.

Besides, it is INSANITY for anyone to ask for what he already has.

The Bible says WE HAVE FORGIVENESS IN CHRIST.

Ephesians 1:7

"In Him WE HAVE redemption thru His blood, the FORGIVENESS OF SINS "

Are we going to have it? NO.. WE ALREADY HAVE IT IN CHRIST. And we are in Christ. 2 Corinthians 5:17. So why will you ask for what you already have?

Read this also:

Colossians 1:14

"In whom WE HAVE redemption, the FORGIVENESS OF SINS "

So, forgiveness of sins is not a Believer's need, it is a Believer's asset. WE ALREADY HAVE IT.

Those who don't understand this profound truth are the ones preaching asking for forgiveness or confession of sin.

Now let us look at the 3 New Testament verses they use:

1 John 1:10 is in the context of verse 9.

1 John 1:9-10

"If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us and purify us from all unrighteousness."

Now who are those who need to confess their sinful states? Those who denied theirs sins. They were a sect who denied existence of sins and they joined the church trying to preach there is no sin and so no need for forgiveness.

And John was saying they needed to AGREE that there is sin so they could be forgiven by trusting in Christ.

The Greek word used for "confess " there does is "HOMOLOGEO " .

It does NOT MEAN to list sins but it means "AGREE WITH SOMEONE ELSE. TO SAY THE SAME THING AS ANOTHER PERSON.... "

It meant those who denied sins existence needed to agree with God that all men sinned and need His Mercies to be forgiven...

Those are the ones who needed to AGREE/ CONFESS to their sinful states in order to receive God's forgiveness.

For the Believers, We have been forgiven. The Truth (Jesus) is in us. So the context is referring not to the Believers but to these guys who propagated such doctrine of denying sin.

**WE DON'T PREACH DENIAL OF SIN, WE PREACH FORGIVENESS OF SINS IN THE BLOOD OF CHRIST ONCE AND FOR ALL...**

And in the very next chapter, John clearly said "MY CHILDREN. These are I write to you that no man should sin. But if anyone sins, WE HAVE AN ADVOCATE WITH THE FATHER, JESUS CHRIST..."

While addressing the Sons, John never asked them to confess sin or ask for forgiveness. He simply assured them that **OUR ADVOCATE IS THERE BEFORE THE FATHER AS A PROOF OF OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.**

### **James verses... “Confess your sins / faults to one another....”**

James talked about confessing your **FAULTS** to one another. **IT IS ABOUT RELATIONSHIP IN THE CHURCH.** If you wrong, a brother to humbly ask for his forgiveness. And James also said “Pray for one another, **SO YOU MAY BE HEALED**”

Many times, believers live under guilt of a long time sin or a secret sin, and this wears down the believer’s conscience and confidence. Such a believer becomes ineffective and feels wounded in his conscience. He needs healing.

Telling another believer and being prayed for by another believer restores that healing of the conscience. Of course, that is not the only way, but it is surely a good way we can minister to one another. **REMEMBER, THIS IS NOT ABOUT FORGIVENESS OF SINS, BUT HEALING OF CONSCIENCE AS AN OTHER BELIEVER PRAYS FOR YOU AND RESTORES YOUR CONSCIENCE.** It is called ministering to one another.

## **Lastly, the Lord's prayer where Jesus said "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.."**

You can never see any Apostle prayed the so called "Lord's prayer" in the Epistles. Not even once was it ever mentioned nor quoted in the Epistles...

This was a prayer model Jesus taught His disciples when He was on earth and the law was still operative.

Under the Law, you do something to get something from God.

Remember the blood of Jesus was NOT yet shed and so no new Testament was not yet operative until the death of the Testator (Christ )

There are other components of the so - called Lord's prayer which have been fulfilled and no longer needed.

For instance, Hebrews 12:28 makes it known we have received His kingdom that cannot be shaken and in the Lord's prayer, the kingdom was at hand/ close and so they had to pray for it to come in the Lord's prayer. Now, the Kingdom has come... You see that?

Also in the so called Lord's prayer, Jesus said

"if you do not forgive men their sins, your heavenly Father will not forgive you your sins"

However, after Christ died and rose, in the Epistles, the Holy Spirit updated that prayers as follow:

"Forgive one another as Christ has also forgiven you" So the order is no longer that you must forgive to be forgiven. No. But you have been forgiven freely IN CHRIST and thus you should overflow the same gift.

These are just to show you that the so called Lord's prayer is not a model for us as believers and was never practiced nor mentioned after the death of Christ.

No one is against **SHOWING REMORSE FOR SIN**. There is no child of God who would commit a sinful act and not show remorse or being sorry. Because that is not our nature. Sin is strange to our new nature in Christ.

However, this remorse does not mean God has not forgiven. It is simply natural to feel bad when we wrong the one we love. **BUT WE MUST NOT STAY THERE. WE MUST RESTORE OUR HEARTS IN THE FINISHED WORKS OR CHRIST.**

And remember, this is NOT about God but our conscience. I hope this bless you.

# Question From My Inbox 1 - After Forgiveness?

**Question:** Pastor You said as believers we have been forgiven in Christ. What happens if I sin after forgiveness?

**Answer:** There is no after-forgiveness. Effects of forgiveness is NOT a past tense. It is present continuous. It lasts from the cross till eternity. So there is no timeline in-between that you are not forgiven.

We were forgiven on the cross when Christ died. But that forgiveness is ACTIVE throughout our lifetime until eternity. IT IS A TIMELESS AND AN ETERNAL FORGIVENESS IN CHRIST.

## From my inbox 2: "I am sorry"

**Question:** Sir, is it okay to say "sorry" to our Lord? Even when u already know that u are forgiven?

**My Response:** "I do say "sorry" A LOT to Him.. It is simply responsible to say sorry when you do "wrong" to SOMEONE YOU LOVE... But thank Him because you have been forgiven IN CHRIST and move on. "

### **Please Note:**

I don't say sorry to Him in order to be forgiven. I know I am ALREADY forgiven IN CHRIST. I say sorry because He is My Darling, and it is just appropriate to apologize out of love, not out of fear.

Even, if you don't say sorry, it does NOT undo His forgiveness. It only does not give you an opportunity to pulse and think about your wrong action.

So, the "sorry" is more for you than for HIM, and it is normal in love relationship to apologize.

Hope you got this?



# **Closing Nugget: How powerful FORGIVENESS is!**

Sin, when not forgiven, thrives, leads to more sins and evils.

People who live under guilt are emotional wreck, they also end up being moral wrecks. They end up playing out their fears and regrets. They are suffering from inward hurt and they end up hurting people.

The way to cure sin is FORGIVENESS.  
True forgiveness breaks the circle of sin.

Christ has offered us unconditional forgiveness. Beyond that, He paid for it so that it doesn't look like injustice.

DIVINE JUSTICE KISSED DIVINE MERCIES ON THE CROSS. And the result is NEW CREATION, eternally forgiven, eternally justified, eternally purified and sanctified. Beyond all, we are ETERNALLY GLORIFIED IN CHRIST.

May I implore you to accept Christ's Total Forgiveness today and forgive yourself. Christ has totally removed your sins and CAN NEVER remember them anymore.

LIVE FREE.  
LIVE GUILT FREE.  
LIVE FREE OF CONDEMNATION.  
LIVE FORGIVEN.  
LIVE JUSTIFIED.  
LIVE SANCTIFIED.  
LIVE BEAUTIFIED.  
LIVE LOVED.  
LIVE GLORIFIED.

As you have received God's Gift of forgiveness, also give the Gift of forgiveness.

Let go of the past.

Accept those who have wounded you.

Forgive them and love on them.

Let Christ's forgiveness flow from you easily to others.

Only then is the NEWNESS OF LIFE POSSIBLE.

Only then does evil loose their grips over relationship and families.

You need to accept Christ's total forgiveness. To live fully and eternally forgiven. And to forgive others eternally by the same forgiveness you receive.

I love you eternally in Christ!

**I hope you are blessed by this series. Amen.**