

Words to	loved	gave	that	should	everlas
Find:	the	his	whosoever	not	life.
For	world	only	believeth	perish	
God	that	begotten	in	but	
SO	he	Son	him	have	

How to Be Forgiven

- ! Know all have sinned including you: "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God:" Romans 3:23
- ! Know that eventually there is a cost that has to be paid for your sin: "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:23
- **! Know** that the price for your sin has already been paid no matter what you have done: "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we

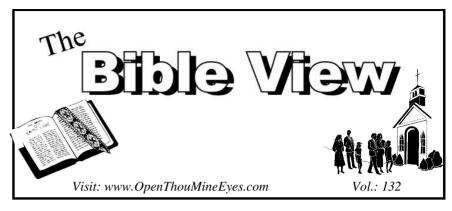
were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

Payment to your sin account: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." I John 1:9 "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." Romans 10:9 (The "confessing" is admitting your faults to God only, in prayer)

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It Will Turn Up

Bill Brinkworth

Twenty years ago, Aaron Giles lost a small, identity bracelet he was wearing. He was about five years old at the time, and was

never sure where he lost it. Aaron be-

lieves he lost it when he was playing at his grandfather's farm in Fairmont, Minnesota.

A lot of time has gone by since that time, and his grandfather's farm is no longer standing. How surprised he was, when recently, the piece of jewelry was returned to him. It was found by a meat cutter, who found it when removing a chicken's gizzard. The object was in good condition, and the name was still legible. It was believed the animal came from a farm in the vicinity of where the boy had lost it 20 years prior. It was there the fowl swallowed the shiny object.

Many times, deeds done, a long time ago, rear their reminding head. If it was a good deed, and we are reminded of it, we Continued on Page 2

No Matter What They Decide

Bill Brinkworth

Prior to Joshua's death, he gathered the people of Israel together. He reminded them of all the great and mighty things God had done for them and their fathers. Joshua rehearsed how God took, gave, sent, plagued, brought, put, destroyed, and delivered for them in over 17 instances (Joshua 24:3-13).

In all the rememberances of the great helps God had performed for His people, the leader remembered all the failures of His people. He told them how they continued to backslide from God and repeatedly had to be rescued from the consequences of their poor choices. Many of the rescues God had to perform were because the people had not learned their lesson yet and still were of two opinions.

Sometimes they served God, and sometimes they served the losing side and its false gods. Trying to live for God was a constant struggle for them. Their Continued on Page 2

It Will Turn Up

Continued from Page 1 smile and remember happily. If, however, the deed was something we are now ashamed of ever having done, we cringe at the reminder that we were the ones who did that shameful act.

Again and again crimes, that were done a long time ago, come under re-investigation. Surprised are the villains when the law arrives at their door to arrest them for a crime that they may have even forgotten. Adulterous acts have often times been revealed to spouses many years after the sin was committed. Government officials, running for office, have had to resign from their race for an office, after it was discovered that they had cheated on a long-past college exam. People have been rejected from getting jobs, because of the discovery of their criminal activity many years before.

Like Mr. Gile's bracelet, the wages and the public exposure of sin can occur long after the act was done or performed. There is a principle taught in the Bible about sin. It is, that no one gets away without paying a price-tag on iniquity. The act may have been done in secret, but it will not always be hid. As Moses reminded His people, "... be sure your sin will find you out" (Numbers 32:23).

Many suffer in this life from the later payday of sin. Adulterers can pay for their trespass by eventually losing their family. Thieves' salaries for their sin are often paid by jail-time. Liars pay time and a half for their wickedness by separation from untrusting friends. All, if unsaved and not receiving Jesus' death as payment for their sin, will suffer in a dark, lonely, painful, eternal hell.

God wants no one to suffer the after-shocks of sin. That is why His desire is for us to keep far from the damaging grasps of sin. No matter who you are, all sin will be revealed – somewhere. Its embarrassing reminder will turn up.

No Matter What They ...

Continued from Page 1 minds were not completely made up yet, or they would not have had made the same mistakes time after time.

No matter the loyalty of Israel to God, it was not a hard decision for Joshua. His mind was already made up. He had, a long time previously, decided who His God was, and that he would be faithful in obedience. It was no longer a struggle for him whom he would serve when he said:

"Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD. And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve;

Sin may open bright as the morning, but it will end dark as night.

— Talmage

I.......

whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." Joshua 24:14-15

Israel's leader used interesting terms in describing many of the people's desire not to serve God. He used: "... if it seem evil". This wording indicated that some of the people thought that serving their creator and protector was physically, socially, or morally bad for them. This thinking is not unlike the thoughts today by many. Too many think serving God and obeying his commands as recorded in the Bible are unprofitable to them because:

They will miss all the "fun", if they follow God's commands. Sin is only "fun" for a short time:

"Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;" Hebrews 11:25. Sin never gives true joy, only temporary satisfaction.

They do not know that there is a price tag for sin. No one gets away with sin.

"He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." Proverb 28:13

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:23

His way is not the world's way. By following His way they will appear strange and different from others. They will not fit in.

"Sin and dandelions are a whole lot alike; they're a lifetime fight that you never quite win."

-- White

Yes, God's way is different. Yes, you will not fit in if you are obedient to God; but why do you want to be like the losing side anyway? God's way is always better. He has raised trillions upon trillions of children and His ways are the best.

"For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so <u>are my</u> ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." Isaiah 55:9

They only see the now, and forget the eternal. There is life after death. There is an eternity in either heaven or hell. What sense is there in missing an eternity in heaven for temporal satisfaction for relatively short time here on earth.

"For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" Mark 8:36

The world's excuses for not serving God are not much different than those of today. The excuses come from the same rebellious and disobedient heart. No matter the time, the answer to God can be the same as Joshua's: "... but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." Joshua 24:15. No matter what others think or do, we can always be different and do right!