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THE BIBLE VIEW

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Theme: *Forgiven*

God's Forgiveness

Bill Brinkworth

Of all God is, one of His traits is the most appreciated. There would be no hope for any of us if it were not for that attribute. If it were not for His forgiving us of our sins, we would all need to be fearful of the eternity in the Lake of Fire that would await us.

*“Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; 4 Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;”
Psalm 103: 3-4*

We can receive that excellent gift of forgiveness, not because of something we did or could do. We can receive God's gift only because He is merciful. Although He knows of our sins, He can choose to forgive what we have done and to waive the repercussions we deserve. God can heal all of our sin sicknesses (“... who healeth all thy diseases...” Psalm 103:3) if we will ask.

God's forgiveness is all-encompassing. In Psalm 103, we see that God:

- Paid for ("redeemed") our sins with the shed blood of His only son, Jesus. He did this, so we could avoid eternal punishment due to an unforgiven sinner.
"Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; ..." Psalm 103:4
- Can give undeserved mercy (*Psalm 103:4b, 8, 17*).
- Is gracious to us and does not always give us the punishment we deserve (*Psalm 103:8, 10*).
- Often stops being angry at some (*Psalm 103:9*).
- Can put our sins far away from His remembrance. Once He forgives us of our iniquities, they are as far away as the east is from the west. Those two compass points never meet, nor does our wicked past meet with God's judgment if we are saved (that is the only way God can forgive any of our sins).
"As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us." Psalm 103:12
- Knows what we are made of and knows that we are weak (*Psalm 103:14*).

Christian, imagine standing in front of God and being reminded of ALL your unrighteousness. That will never happen to a child of God. We are forgiven.

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

Forgiven

Bill Brinkworth

Psalm 32 is a Psalm of instruction on how to have peace from guilt. From David's own experiences (many say when the prophet Nathan made David see his sins of adultery and murder), we read how one is happy and relieved when one's sins are forgiven.

All the anguishes the king bore from his past sins were forgiven, as can a person's transgressions today. In David's era, a sacrifice in the Temple would temporarily cover the sins of the people. Today is different. We do not have to present our sacrifices to God. One perfect offering was given to cover ALL of one's iniquities. The best sacrifice was God's only son, Jesus. Those that admit their sinnership and trust Jesus' great gift to all mankind can have all their sins forgotten and forgiven.

Today's forgiven person can have as much happiness ("blessed" — Psalm 32:2) as did David when His iniquities were forgiven. To have the peace that one's sins are under the sacrificed blood of Christ is a most appreciated blessing. David also knew about that peace as when he was forgiven. He then could sleep peaceably, and the pressure of guilt was gone (Psalm 32:3).

King David got that peace that passes all man's understanding when the sin was confessed to God (Psalm 32:5). Although nothing is ever hidden from God, we must humble ourselves to the Lord and admit our

transgressions. David confessed, and the burden of guilt was lifted.

We have all sinned. Most know what it is like to carry a heavy guilt-load because of our iniquities. It brings great peace and comfort to know that we are forgiven and cleansed by the blood of Christ.

When we stand before the Lord at the appointed time, we will not have our sins charged to our “account” if one is saved. They are all paid for by what Jesus did for us! *“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.” Rom. 10:9*

The King’s Pardon

D. L. Moody

A man was once being tried for a crime, the punishment of which was death. The witnesses came in one by one and testified to his guilt, but there he stood, quite calm and unmoved.

The judge and the jury were surprised at his indifference. They could not understand how he could take such a serious matter so calmly. When the jury retired, it did not take them long to decide on a verdict of “guilty.”

When the judge passed the death sentence upon the criminal, he told him how surprised he was that the criminal could be so unmoved in the prospect of death. When the judge had finished, the man put his hand in his bosom,

pulled out a document, and presented it to the judge. He then walked out of the courtroom a free man.

Ah, that was how he could be so calm. He had a free pardon from his king, which he had in his pocket all the time. The king had instructed him to allow the trial to proceed and produce the pardon only when he was condemned. No wonder that he was indifferent to the result of the verdict.

That is just what will make us joyful in the great Day of Judgment. Christians have a pardon from the Great King, and it is sealed with the blood of His Son. We that are saved will miss that Judgment!

Praise God, My Sins Are Gone

Hymn by N. B. Vandall, 1936

You ask me why I'm happy, so I'll just tell you why,
Because my sins are gone;
And when I meet the scoffers who ask me where they are,
I say, "My sins are gone."

CHORUS:

*They're underneath the blood on the cross of Calvary,
As far removed as darkness is from dawn;
In the sea of God's forgetfulness, that's good enough for
me,
Praise God, my sins are gone!*

'Twas at the old-time altar where God came into my heart,
And now my sins are gone;

The Lord took full possession, the devil did depart,
I'm glad my sins are gone!

CHORUS:

When Satan comes to tempt me and tries to make me
doubt,
I say, "My sins are gone,
You got me into trouble, but Jesus got me out."
I'm glad my sins are gone!

CHORUS:

I'm living now for Jesus, I'm happy, night and day,
Because my sins are gone;
My soul is filled with music, with all my heart I say,
"I know my sins are gone!"

CHORUS:

"I write unto you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for his name's sake." *1 John 2:12*