

Sunday, February 3, 2013—The Things Freely Given Us of God—Total Forgiveness, Part 3

### Introduction/Review

- Over the past two Sunday's we have been talking about Ephesians 1:7 and what it means to possess the total forgiveness of all our sins. All our sins, past, present, and future have been forgiven under the blood of Jesus Christ. Believers enjoy a state of total and complete forgiveness in Jesus Christ. All our sins have been paid for.
  - Colossians 1:14
  - Colossians 2:13—"having forgiven you all trespasses." How many is all? Every single last one.
- Last week we looked at the following questions: 1) If we are totally forgiven why do we still sin? 2) What should we do when we sin?
- *Answer to Question 1*—even though our soul and spirit have been redeemed and cut away from the flesh as long as we are on earth we still reside in a sinful flesh that only know how to do one thing sin. The reason we still sin even though we have been totally forgiven is because it is so easy to fall back into our default setting and programming and walk after the flesh and not after the Spirit.
- *Answer to Question 2*—we did not have time to fully answer this question last Sunday but did talk about the common doctrine of parental forgiveness. This idea teaches that we are placed into the family of God which you can never be taken out of; however, sin causes a break in your fellowship with God. Therefore, we need to confess our sins so that forgiveness can be granted and fellowship restored.
  - I John 1:9—we should confess our sins because the Bible tells us to right? This is the main verse, along with verses from the Old Testament that are used to support the notion of keeping short accounts with God.
  - *Who Wrote I John?*—John the Apostle chosen by the Lord during his earthly ministry in Matt. 10 and sent to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.
  - *Where Does I John Fit Dispensationally?*—I John is written to a Jewish audience who are on earthy during the time of the anti-Christ and need to overcome him. They also need to identify those who are Jews or members of the believing remnant from those who are not.
  - *What Is I John 1:9 Really About?*— the context of I John 1:9 is dealing with unsaved Jews during the tribulation period who are falsely claiming to members of the believing remnant. If you are saved today you have already been cleansed from all unrighteousness. How many times can this happen to you? This verse has absolutely nothing to do with the fabricated doctrine of Parental Forgiveness.

## What Should We Do When We Sin?

### *Does Daily Confession Bring Victory Over Sin?*

- Will continual daily confession of your sins lead to victory over sin in your life? No, all you are doing is fixating on the problem.
- Hebrews 10:1-4—this passage is talking about the sacrificial system under Israel’s law.
- Hebrews 10:3—they had to bring the sacrifice every year as a reminder of the fact that they were sinners.
- The confession of sins and keeping of short accounts works the same way; it serves as a daily reminder of the fact that I’m a sinner. Under the common teaching on the confession of sins you are always looking at yourself to gage how you are doing with God. If your focus is on you and your sin and making sure all of your sins are confessed, which is impossible anyway, you will never have victory in the Christian life.
- I Corinthians 1:9—our fellowship is not based upon anything we do. Rather it is based upon the faithfulness of God.
- I Corinthians 1:30—we are all of these things because we are in Christ.
- I Corinthians 6:11—Paul never talks about believers being sinners but saints. We are saints because they are in Christ.
- We need to view ourselves that same way God does.
  - Saved—from eternal punishment
  - Forgiven—forgiven of all our sin
  - Justified—possessor of God’s very righteousness
  - Indwelt and Sealed—by the Holy Spirit unto the day of redemption
  - Complete—perfect and complete lacking nothing
  - Seated—with Christ in the heavenly places
  - Joint Heir—all that is Christ’s is ours
- You can confess your sins until the cows come home and never experience victory over sin. Why because the keeping of legalistic short accounts with God is not God’s solution.
- As believers we need to stop focusing on the problem and start applying the solution. What should you do when you sin? Just Grace It! Apply the cross and move on.
- God is satisfied with the death of his son why can’t the church be? Why do we continue to feel like we need to help God out? It is nothing more than our religious flesh programming that thinks grace is too easy and that God needs our help. We need to relax; Christ knew all about us and died for us anyway.

## Does God Spank Us When We Sin?

- There is another subject related to total forgiveness and the confession of sin that we need to discuss that is the closely related subject of chastisement. Does God punish us when we sin? Is God giving you flat tires, marital strife, problems with your kids, economic hardship, or any other sort of physical trial to punish you for your sin?
- There are many people today even Grace Believers who are afraid of the punishment of God. They are always looking at their circumstances trying and attempting to try and figure out what God is trying to teach them.

### *A Misapplied Passage*

- Hebrews 12:5-11—see whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth
  - Scourgeth—means to flog or beat with a whip
  - Matthew 10:17
  - Matthew 20:19
- There is great confusion and consternation over this passage because people don't understand that the book of Hebrews is not written to the Body of Christ.
- Hebrews 1:1-2—the readership of Hebrews has a reference point in God's prophetic history. The writer of Hebrews is drawing their attention to some things they had already been taught.
- Ephesians 2:11-12—the gentiles do not possess the same historical perspective because in time past we were strangers from the covenants of promise without hope and without God.
- Ephesians 3:3—the formation of the Body of Christ is the subject of the mystery, therefore we have no prophetic reference point like the readers of Hebrews possess.
- So the question becomes if the book of Hebrews is not written to the Body of Christ does God still chasten believers and if so what form does chastening take?

### *Two Important Definitions*

- To properly understand this issue we must first look at how the Bible defines Chastisement. When we do we find that there are two forms of chastisement found in the Scriptures.
- Psalm 94:10-12—the first definition is that of correction. This type of correction takes the form of instruction, the law provided correction which is a form of chastisement. Therefore, the first definition simply means to educate or inform with the goal of correcting.
- Proverbs 3:11-12—Once again we see chastisement associated with correction.
- This second definition deals with keeping the law and fearing the punishment of God that is outlined in the Law. This is the form of Chastisement that believers are taught is in effect today.

- Deuteronomy 28
  - Verses 1-14—delineate a series of blessings that would be given to Israel for following the Law.
  - Verses 15-44—delineate a series of curses that would come upon Israel for their failure to comply. The Law contract said they would be cursed for disobedience.
- Deuteronomy 28:45—these curses would be designed by God to pursue after them until they were destroyed.
- Deuteronomy 28:46—this system of curses was to serve as a sign, that is a flag or indicator that would tell the nation where they were at with their relationship with God. So where does the idea come from that God will punish me for my sin? The Bible
- Who is it that requires a sign? I Corinthians 1:22—the Jews require a sign.
- Today we are to walk by faith and not by sight. Our circumstances are not a sign today of God's favor or disfavor. Grace believers who want to function in this mindset might as well believe in speaking in tongues and all the miracles demonstrations of Israel sign program because this form of punishment was part of that program. This is why it is so critical that we are careful to rightly divide the word of truth.
- Leviticus 26:16, 23-24, 27-28—this chapter lays out the five courses of punishment that the curses of Deuteronomy 28 would bring upon the nation for their disobedience.
  - Isaiah 26:16-17—Tribulation context
  - Jeremiah 30:11-14, 31:18
  - Hosea 7:11-12, 10:9-10
- How many people today are afraid of being punished for their sins? These prophetic verses coupled with the those in the Law and Hebrews 12 are what people use to teach direct physical intervention from God to punishment his children for their sin. People today who try to discern the bad things happening to them as the punishment or chastisement of God have failed to rightly divide the word of truth.

### *Upon What Basis?*

- Upon what basis would God deal with the Body of Christ this fashion?
- Ephesians 1:7—we have redemption through his blood the forgiveness of sins.
- Romans 5:1—based on the merits of his son God is at peace with us. If God is at peace with us he upon what basis would he punish us. He already punished his son in our place.
- Romans 6:14-15—we are not under the Law system. Therefore, we are not under the sign program. The things that happen to us are not indicative of God's favor or disfavor with us.
- Romans 8:1—we are blameless (Eph. 1:4) and no longer under condemnation.

- Colossians 2:13—believers have already been forgiven all trespasses why would God punish us for things for which we have already been forgiven?
- II Corinthians 5:19—if God is not even imputing men’s trespass unto them today during the dispensation of grace upon what basis is God judging or punishing anyone saved or unsaved.
- Does this mean that we don’t need correction? Come back next week and find out.