



Christians are Already Forgiveness Before They Sin



READ HEBREWS 12:1

What is a sin that you commit over and over again? This is your favorite sin, but also one you hate and cannot seem to stop.

Imagine you just committed this sin again; how is God looking at you?

Do you ever wonder if God gets so tired of your sinning that you can break your relationship with Him?

Good news! There is a best-kept secret for the Christian: Forgiveness from God is not based on what you do; it is based on what God has already done for you!

Write out 1 John 1:9.

“Confess”- to say the same thing as another person; to agree with

“Forgive” - to send away; to release from a debt

“Cleanse” - to make clean from all guilt of sin; to purify

Read 1 John 1:1-4, 2:1, 12. To whom was the book of 1 John written?

When did Jesus die on the cross?

When did he offer forgiveness for your sins?

When was that forgiveness granted?

How many of your sins did God forgive?



READ EPHESIANS 1:3-7

How many spiritual blessings did God give you when you got saved?

According to these verses, list the ways God describes us:

You have all spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus, and that includes complete forgiveness.

**Christians do
not need more
forgiveness**

READ COLOSSIANS 2:13-14

When you got saved, God forgave all your sins: past, present, and future. How many of your sins were future when Jesus died?

God canceled all legal debt that we owed Him as sinners. How many of our sins did He nail to the cross?

READ HEBREWS 10:17-18

What does remission mean?

Because our sins have been forgiven, there is no need for further sacrifice, either on our part or Christ's!

If all your sins (past, present, and future) were forgiven at the cross, how does that reshape how you view your relationship with God today?





READ ROMANS 8:1-2

What does it mean that we are no longer condemned if we are saved?

READ 1 JOHN 2:1

What does it mean to have an advocate with God our Father?

Who is this advocate?

Some people keep a list of sins to confess, but this can lead to anxious thoughts if you forget to list a sin or are unaware it is a sin. When we commit sins, God invites us to confess them right away. We do not confess sins we commit hoping to get forgiveness because that was already given to us. We confess sins with confidence that it is already forgiven because we are in Christ.

The flesh is the part of us that wants us to live independent of God and His resources. When we sin, we have lived according to the flesh, instead of walking in the Spirit. As a result, when we sin, we can say, "Thank you that you forgave me for this sin when Jesus died on the cross. I repent by turning to the lord Jesus Christ."

What is the difference between asking for forgiveness to get forgiven versus confessing because you are already forgiven?

Why does that matter?

**God is Not
Waiting for
You to Ask for
Forgiveness**





**Will God
Forgive Us if
We do Not
Forgive?**



READ MATTHEW 6:10-13.

When Jesus spoke these words, had He yet died on the cross?

So, who was Jesus talking to when He taught this principle?

When Jesus was talking to people who were still part of the Old Testament covenant, he was preparing these Jews to see how sinful they were. This knowledge would help them see that Jesus was truly the only way of salvation. Read Hebrews 8:13. Jesus made a new covenant to replace the old one.

READ EPHESIANS 4:32

When you read Matthew 6:12, you see that we are to forgive in order to be forgiven, but this passage changes that because of the new covenant. Now, those who are forgiven need to forgive based on that truth. What does it mean to go from forgiven to forgiving?

How should being fully forgiven impact the way you forgive others?



You Can't Out-Sin God's Grace



READ MATTHEW 5:20

Write down one sin you commit that has or will ever catch God off guard:

READ ROMANS 7:18-20, 24-25

What is the conflict Paul is talking about that happens in the heart and life of a Christian?

As Christians, we have a new spirit where God resides. When we sin, we are not living according to who we actually are in our spirit. We are operating in the power of the flesh. The flesh wants us to live independent of God and His resources. When we sin, we are living according to the flesh.

In verse 24, Paul refers to a certain kind of death sentence that the Romans would use against known murderers. The murderer would be strapped to his murder victim's body to live out his remaining days. Paul was equating living the power of the flesh to strapping on our old man and letting it decide how we live. That is a life that leads to corruption and decay.

When we sin, we are forgiven, but there are still natural consequences we must deal with. Some think that if we teach you are already forgiven, you will sin more. What is there to keep you from sinning if even your future sins are already forgiven?

READ ROMANS 6:1-2

God's answer is that we have died to sin as the ruling power over our lives. Your new identity in Christ is righteous and loves righteousness. The Holy Spirit will never lead you to sin. The Holy Spirit lives in your new spirit, and that is where the real you is. The real you does not want to sin.

Write out a quick explanation of who you are in Christ:



The Difference Between God's Punishment and His Discipline



READ 1 JOHN 2:2

There is no punishment for a child of God. God no longer needs to punish you for any sin because Christ took your punishment on the cross.

The word "propitiation" means the appeasing of God's anger. The punishment for your sin was completely satisfied and removed when Jesus died in your place for your sin on the cross.

How many sins did God forgive?

READ HEBREWS 12:4-11

We see that God does discipline His children. This discipline proves we are His children and that He loves us. We would not stand for anyone to discipline our children. Our relationship with our children is what gives us the right and responsibility to discipline them.

Discipline is not a bad word. It means to build something of value or character into the life of a person.

God punishes sinners in His wrath, but disciplines His children in His love. Our view of how God deals with us comes from our view of who He is. We must come to know Him as He is so we can love and trust Him with our life.

READ COLOSSIANS 2:13-14

God has forgiven all our sins, past, present, and future. This is a fact we must believe.

Do you believe God has completely forgiven you for your past, present, and future sins?

This is a matter of faith. Facts trump feelings. The cancellation is a finished historical fact ("set aside, nailing it to the cross"), not a fluctuating emotion. Because the legal demand is gone, carrying extra guilt is unnecessary. You may be carrying unnecessary guilt. It is time to let that guilt go.

Write out a prayer to God thanking Him for what you have learned about His forgiveness to you: