

Forgiven: You Are Forgiven

Dr. John Carmichael

[Col 2:13-14 NASB95] 13 When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, 14 having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

- You have sinned before God (Rom. 3:23). The sin that you have committed deserves eternal death (Rom. 6:23).
- Yet, Colossians 2:13-14 tells us that because of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we have been forgiven.
- Many people live with a deep shame. They are carrying the gnawing feeling of guilt over their past.
- You need to know, that those who come to God and repent, God forgives you. You are forgiven.

What does the Bible say about receiving forgiveness from God?

Here are seven points of understanding forgiveness from God.

I. Point 1: God's Forgiveness Is Available to All

- a. [Isa 1:18 NASB95] 18 "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are as scarlet, They will be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They will be like wool.
- b. [1Jo 2:1-2 NASB95] 1 My little children, I am writing these things 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 [those of] the whole world.
- c. No one is too far gone.
- d. Pentecostals believe in radical grace that transforms any life.
- e. Forgiveness is not earned — it's received.
- f. Illustration: The thief on the cross—one prayer changed his eternity.

II. Point 2: God's Forgiveness Is Rooted in the Blood of Jesus

- a. [Heb 9:22 NASB95] 22 And according to the Law, [one may] almost [say,] all things are cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.
- b. Forgiveness is not cheap—it was paid in full by Christ.
- c. The Cross isn't just a symbol, it's a transaction: our sin for His righteousness.
- d. Every drop of His blood is still speaking — and it's saying "Forgiven!"

III. Point 3: We Receive Forgiveness Through Confession, Repentance & Forgiving

- a. [Act 3:19 NASB95] 19 "Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord;
- b. [1Jo 1:8-9 NASB95] 8 If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- c. Confession isn't condemnation—it's the beginning of freedom.
- d. Repentance isn't just turning from sin, it's turning to a Savior full of mercy.
- e. Pray with honest confession and expectant faith.
- f. [Mat 6:14-15 NASB95] 14 "For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 "But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.
- g. Forgiveness given equal forgiveness received.

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IV. Point 4: Forgiveness Brings Cleansing and Transformation

- a. [Psa 51:10 NASB95] 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me.
- b. When God forgives, He doesn't just wipe the slate clean—He writes a new story.
- c. It's not just about being forgiven—it's about being made new.
- d. Pentecostal Fire: Let the Holy Spirit burn away shame and ignite holiness.

V. Point 5: God's Forgiveness Is Final and Complete

- a. [Mic 7:19 NASB95] 19 He will again have compassion on us; He will tread our iniquities under foot. Yes, You will cast all their sins Into the depths of the sea.
- b. He doesn't forgive partially—He forgives completely.
- c. The enemy reminds you of what God has already erased.
- d. If God has buried it, stop resurrecting it.

VI. Point 6: Receiving Forgiveness Restores Fellowship with God

- a. [Luk 15:20 NASB95] 20 "So he got up and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion [for him,] and ran and embraced him and kissed him.
- b. Forgiveness isn't just a legal act—it's a relational embrace.
- c. God doesn't just pardon—He welcomes.
- d. The Father is running toward YOU right now.

VII. Point 7: Forgiveness Empowers Us to Live Free and Bold

- a. [Rom 8:1 NASB95] 1 Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
- b. Forgiven people live with authority, confidence, and peace.
- c. When shame is broken, boldness is born.
- d. You're not just forgiven—you're filled, called, and released into destiny.

VIII. Bonus Point: Receive Forgiveness and Healing

- a. [Mat 9:5-6 NASB95] 5 "Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, and walk'? 6 "But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" then He said to the paralytic, "Get up, pick up your bed and go home."
- b. Forgiveness of sins and the healing of sickness are all covered in the Atonement of Christ (death, burial, resurrection, ascension).
- c. With the same faith you receive forgiveness receive healing in every area of life spirit, soul, and body.
- d. Be forgiven. Be healed.

- **God is not reluctant to forgive—He's eager. If you'll confess, He will cleanse. If you'll come, He will cover. If you'll believe, He will break the chains.**
- **On one side, write sins that God has forgiven you for or something you are currently wanting help to overcome.**
- **On the other side, write a miracle you are asking God for in your life (spirit, soul, body).**
- **Do not write your name on the paper.**
- **Bring it to the altar. We will nail it to the foot of the Cross.**