

Pastor's Pen

God Forgets!

"I, even I, am the one who wipes out your transgressions for My own sake, And I will not remember your sins." Isaiah 43:25

If you are like me, you remember things you have done that you are not proud of. You may have lost your temper, stolen something as a teenager, cheated on a test, lied to get out of trouble, or committed countless sins. We might not have forgotten, but if you belong to Christ, God the Father has forgotten them.

Paul wrote to the Romans, **"Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus (Romans 8:1).**" In short, if you are "in Christ Jesus," God will never, ever condemn you for any sin whatsoever. But that's not all. He chooses not even to remember the sin that we confess to him. Christians need to understand that you are transformed once you become born again. You are a new creation (2 Cor. 5:17), and you have been freed from the bondage of sin (Romans 6). A Christian will never stand in judgment for their sins past, present, or future (1 John 1:7).

However, we must still confess our sins to God. In 1 John 1:9, John writes, **"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."** This passage is written to believers, and John states that those who confess their sins are forgiven and cleansed. Though believers are forgiven at the point of salvation, there is also an ongoing sense in which believers need to confess sin and experience forgiveness and cleansing. When we seek forgiveness when we sin, we can be assured that God no longer remembers our sins.

For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more." Hebrews 8:12
- "Then he adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more." Hebrews 10:17

- ***"As far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us." Psalm 133:12***
- ***"He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea." Micah 7:19***

Praise God that He forgets our sins and remembers them no more.

Your shepherd,
Pastor Mark

Grace Gems

Yet without holiness, no man shall see the Lord!- By Charles Spurgeon, "A Call to Holy Living!"

Romans 6:1-2, "Shall we go on sinning so that grace may abound? By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?"

It is a dangerous state of things, if doctrine is made to drive out precept, and faith is held up so as to make holiness of life unnecessary.

Sanctification must not be forgotten or concealed by justification. We must teach plainly that the faith which saves the soul, is not a dead faith—but a faith which operates with a purifying effect upon our entire nature, and produces in us fruits of righteousness to the praise and glory of God.

It is not by our holiness that a man shall enter Heaven, yet without holiness no man shall see the Lord! It is not by good works that we are justified, but if a man shall continue to live an ungodly life—then such faith will not justify him, for it is not the faith of God's elect. Saving faith is wrought by the Holy Spirit, and always conforms men somewhat to the image of Christ.

We must learn to place the precepts in their right position. They are not the root of the tree, but they are the fruit of the tree. Precepts are not given to us as a way to obtain spiritual life, but as the way in which to exhibit spiritual life. The commands of Christ are not upon the legal tenor of "do this, and live"—but upon the gospel system of "live, and do this." We are not to be attentive to the precepts in order to be saved, but because we are saved. Our master motive is to be gratitude to Him who has saved us with such a great salvation. I am sure that every renewed heart will feel no opposition to the most holy precepts of our Lord.

The regenerate never rebel against any precept, saying, "This is too pure!" On the contrary, our new-born nature is enamored by holiness, and we cry, "Your Word is very pure, therefore Your servant loves it. O that my ways were directed to keep Your statutes."

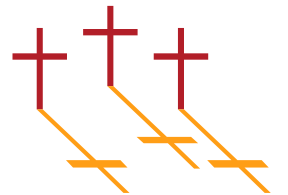
Even though we find that when we would do good, evil is present with us—yet our inmost soul longs after holiness, and pines to be delivered from every evil way.

If mere professors continue in sin that grace may abound, then their damnation is just! The salvation of Christ is not a salvation IN sin, but a salvation FROM sin!

-If you have never read a Spurgeon sermon before, this would be a good one to start with, "A Call to Holy Living!"

Quote of the Week

"As far as God is concerned your sin has ceased to be."
- Charles Spurgeon



Weekly Gatherings

Bible Classes

Old & New Testament Classes
Ladies Class
Young Adults Young Parents
Youth Surge
Sunday Morning @ 9:00AM



Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM Men's Book Study
Fridays | 6AM Men's Book Study
Wednesdays | 6:30PM AWANA



Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM
Please see website for locations



Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team and need to sign up, please contact the team leader at the appropriate email address on the back of this bulletin.



Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM
Youth Study; AWANA & Surge!



Service Times

Sunday School 9:00AM
Children's Church 10:30AM
Sunday Services 10:30AM



Giving from service on 12/29/2024

General Offering \$9,682.77
Building Fund \$5,704.75
Christmas SOS \$12,725.00
Benevolence \$100.00

Total \$28,212.52
Attendance 173

Christmas SOS goal \$8,000.....so far \$19,683.

Build the Body Ministries

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org
AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org
Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org
Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org
Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org
Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org
Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org
Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org
Maintenance-maintenance@ghbcva.org
Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org
Communications-communications@ghbcva.org
Front Line-frontline@ghbcva.org
Security-security@ghbcva.org



GRACE HARVEST BIBLE CHURCH

GO GATHER GROW GO

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Grace Harvest Bible Church

Jan 05, 2025

Welcome