

The Price God Paid for our Forgiveness is beyond our Comprehension And so we Forgive Others and are Forgiven by God

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The Eternal, Unchanging, Almighty, Holy God; the Creator, Sustainer and Inheritor of all things; the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit; **came to earth from heaven, in the Person of Jesus**, the Son, as their Representative. And He came as a human being, by the power of the Holy Spirit, through the womb of Mary. Luke 1:35, Matthew 1:20.

Jesus lived a perfect sinless life. From the age of thirty years, until He was crucified at the age of thirty three, He taught the truth of God, the Gospel or Good News of God's Kingdom, to multitudes in Israel. He performed countless miracles of healing, He delivered many from demons, opened blind eyes, raised the dead, fed the hungry multitude with a few loaves and fish and demonstrated the love of God in all things.

After three years of Jesus' ministry, the Jewish religious leaders of His day arose against Him, and persuaded the Jewish people to demand of the Roman Governor that He be put to death. Although the Roman Governor declared that Jesus was innocent of any crime worthy of death, he eventually allowed Jesus to be crucified on the cross, bowing to the pressure of the people.

Although Jesus was totally innocent of any wrongdoing, the Godhead of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit were working in this travesty of justice. Acts 2:23, 24. The death of Jesus Christ, and the shedding of His blood on the Cross, was a fulfilment of Old Testament prophecies of the "Lamb of God", that would die for sin. **By this sacrifice of Himself, He has made certain the salvation of those who believe in Him, and serve Him as their Saviour and Lord.**

Exodus 12:1 – 14, Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12, John 1:29, 1 Peter 2:24, 1 Peter 3:18.

In proof of the fulfilment of the purposes of God, through the death of Jesus Christ, to provide a way of salvation for sinful man, **the Father raised Him from the dead on the third day.** 1 Corinthians 15:3–8, 12–19, Hebrews 1:2, 3.

After His resurrection, for forty days, the resurrected Jesus Christ appeared to His disciples and taught them of the things of the Kingdom of God. Acts 1:1–8.

At the end of the forty days Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of God as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Acts 1:9 – 11, Matthew 28:18, Ephesians 1:22, 23, 1 Timothy 6:13 – 16.

The Lord Jesus Christ is seated at the right hand of God. The Father is making His enemies His footstool. Psalm 110:1, 2.

One day soon, He will return to the earth again as the Judge of all peoples.

1 Thessalonians 4:13 – 18, Matthew 25:31 – 46, Acts 17:30, 31, Acts 10:42, Romans 14:10, 2 Corinthians 5:10.

In this judgment, those who have believed in Him and served Him as Lord and Saviour, will be welcomed by Him as the blessed of the Father, ready to inherit the kingdom prepared for them from the foundation of the world. Matthew 25:34.

But to those who did not believe in Him and serve Him, He will say, "Depart from Me, you cursed, into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels." Matthew 25:41, 46.

The price that God paid for our salvation and forgiveness is beyond our comprehension.

The Father was willing to sacrifice His one and only Son, so that sinful rebellious men and women could receive forgiveness of sins and the gift of eternal life from God, through faith in Jesus as Lord and Saviour.

John 3:16–18, Romans 3:23, 24, Romans 6:23.

He paid the debt He did not owe, for us, and we owed a debt we could not pay!!!

He did this willingly, of His own free will, so that we might receive the blessing we did not deserve, of being the sons and daughters of God, eternally at home with Him in His presence. 2 Corinthians 6:16–18, Galatians 4:4–7.

On the cross, He, who knew no sin, was made to be sin for us, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.

2 Corinthians 5:21.

He bore our sins in His own body on the cross. 1 Peter 2:24.

By nature, because of our sins, before we are forgiven, we are children of God's wrath. Ephesians 2:3.

But Jesus paid the price for us to be restored into fellowship with God. Romans 5:1.

Christ suffered for our sins, the Just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the Spirit. 1 Peter 3:18.

God shows His great love towards us, in that while we were continuing as sinners, Christ died for us! Romans 5:8.

While we were God's enemies, through our sin and rebellion against Him, He reconciled us to Himself by the death of His Son! Romans 5:10.

Whoever will confess their sins to God, believe in the sacrifice of the Jesus Christ as the payment for sins and sin, accept and serve Him, will be forgiven by God, and accepted by Him for ever. 1John 1:7, 9, Acts 16:31, 1Peter 3:18, 1Peter 2:24.

This awesome act of mercy from God, to all who believe in His Son, requires that I in turn forgive each person who sins against me. Matthew 6:12,14,15, Matthew 18:21-35, Mark 11:25,26, Luke 6:37, Ephesians 4:32.

Failure to do this results in dire consequences.

In the parable of Matthew 18:21 – 35, the King forgave one of his servants who owed him ten thousand talents, about ten million dollars, but the servant would not forgive the debt of a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii, about three months wages.

When the king heard about it he was furious, and said, "O you wicked servant, I forgave you all that debt, because you desired it of me: **should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant as I had pity on you???**"

Jesus ends the parable by saying, "His lord was angry, and delivered him to the tormentors till he should pay all that was due to him. **So likewise shall My Heavenly Father do also unto you, if you, from your heart, forgive not everyone his brother their trespasses.**"

Therefore:

If anyone offends or hurts you, **be quick to forgive that person.** "And when you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anybody: that your Father in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if you do not forgive, neither will your heavenly Father forgive your trespasses. Mark 11:25,26.

Release that person from your condemning judgment. Matthew 7:1,2. Jesus said that the way we treat others is the way God will treat us. Matthew 7:2 (in my own words.) God is totally just in all His ways.

This is not whitewashing their sins against you. If they have done wrong, they have done wrong. God is just God. One of the pillars of God's throne is justice. Psalm 89:14.

Hand the problem over to God to sort out. Leave it with the Lord. Psalm 55:22, 1 Peter 5:7. "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay", says the Lord. Romans 12:19.

Pray blessing on that person such as Acts 26:18. Matthew 5:44, Luke 6:27, 28, 35-37.

We are commanded to test try and prove all things in an evaluative way, 1Thessalonians 5:21, 1John 4:1, but not in a condemning way as a judge. **Objective evaluation of a problem is not a sin.** "The Lord loves justice, He does not forsake His saints; they are preserved for ever." Psalm 37:28, Matthew 18:15-17. The Lord is establishing His kingdom in judgment and justice. Isaiah 9:7.

If action has to be taken, seek wise mature counsel, follow the leading of the Holy Spirit, and after prayer and waiting on God consider following the process of Matthew 18:15-18.

Don't nurse it, rehearse it, or curse it, but reverse it by obeying and following the words of Jesus.