



“Not Willing that Any Should Perish”

Psalm 103:1-18

God Is Eager To Forgive

- Psalm 86:5 - “For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, And abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You.”
- Psalm 130:7 - “O Israel, hope in the LORD; For with the LORD there is mercy, And with Him is abundant redemption.”

God Is Eager To Forgive

- Joel 2:13 - “So rend your heart, and not your garments; Return to the LORD your God, For He is gracious and merciful, Slow to anger, and of great kindness; And He relents from doing harm.”
- 2Peter 3:9 - “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.”

God Is Eager To Forgive

- Why are we afraid of the Judgment?
 - “I do not think I can be forgiven of my sins.”
 - “How can I know I’ve been forgiven?”
 - “I am afraid that I might have overlooked something or I might be condemned for doing something I didn’t know was wrong.”

God Is Eager To Forgive

- At the core of this fear is a misunderstanding of the nature of God.
- Most imagine God as harsh and unrelenting, waiting for people to make a mistake, so that He can punish them with glee.
- They do not remember or believe that God is love
 - 1John 4:7-8 - “Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.”

God Is Eager To Forgive

- God wants us all saved
 - Heb. 6:9-18

- Heb. 6:9-18 - “But, beloved, we are confident of better things concerning you, yes, things that accompany salvation, though we speak in this manner. 10 For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister. 11 And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, 12 that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises. 13 For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, 14 saying, Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you. 15 And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. 16 For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute. 17 Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, 18 that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us.”

God Is Eager To Forgive

- God's goal is salvation for every person
 - Ez. 18:23 - “Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? says the Lord GOD, and not that he should turn from his ways and live?”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- David, because of his sin with Bathsheba, understood the forgiveness of God and sang in praise of it
 - Psalm 103:1-5 - “Bless the LORD, O my soul; And all that is within me, bless His holy name! 2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits: 3 Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, 4 Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies, 5 Who satisfies your mouth with good things, So that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- How did we become children of God in the first place?
- Was it not because God offered us salvation?
 - Rom. 5:8 - “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- Because He demonstrated His love toward us?
 - John 3:16 - “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”
- Because He initiated the relationship out of love?
 - 1John 4:9-10 - “In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. 10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- He pardons all our iniquities
- God has the power to cleanse us from every sin. There is no sin God cannot forgive or is unwilling to forgive
 - 1John 1:9 - “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- If a sin is un-forgiven, it is because man will not let go of his sin and humble himself before God
 - Rom. 6:17 - “But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.”
 - Heb. 5:8-9 - “Though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. 9 And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- The invitation to be forgiven is always offered
 - Rev. 22:17 - “And the Spirit and the bride say, Come! And let him who hears say, Come! And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- He heals all our diseases, healing us from the spiritual, emotional, mental, and sometimes physical consequences of sin

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- Sin damages us
 - Psalm 38:1-7 - “O LORD, do not rebuke me in Your wrath, Nor chasten me in Your hot displeasure! 2 For Your arrows pierce me deeply, And Your hand presses me down. 3 There is no soundness in my flesh Because of Your anger, Nor any health in my bones Because of my sin. 4 For my iniquities have gone over my head; Like a heavy burden they are too heavy for me. 5 My wounds are foul and festering Because of my foolishness. 6 I am troubled, I am bowed down greatly; I go mourning all the day long. 7 For my loins are full of inflammation, And there is no soundness in my flesh.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- God supplies a cure
 - Psalm 107:17-20 - “Fools, because of their transgression, And because of their iniquities, were afflicted. 18 Their soul abhorred all manner of food, And they drew near to the gates of death. 19 Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, And He saved them out of their distresses. 20 He sent His word and healed them, And delivered them from their destructions.”
- He relieves us of anguish we inflict on ourselves
 - Psalm 147:3 - “He heals the brokenhearted And binds up their wounds.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- He redeems our lives
- We sold ourselves into sin
 - Rom. 7:14, 24 - “For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin... 24 O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?”
- We willingly sold ourselves for nothing
 - Isa. 52:3 - “For thus says the LORD: You have sold yourselves for nothing, And you shall be redeemed without money.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- God bought us, paying an unimaginable price
 - 1Peter 1:18-19 - “Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- He crowns us with glory
 - 1Peter 5:4 - “And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.”
 - James 1:12 - “Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- He crowns us with glory
 - 2Tim. 4:8 - “Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.”
 - Rev. 3:21 - “To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- He satisfies or fulfills us; even as we grow older on the outside, we become younger on the inside
 - Psalm 92:13-15 - “Those who are planted in the house of the LORD Shall flourish in the courts of our God. 14 They shall still bear fruit in old age; They shall be fresh and flourishing, 15 To declare that the LORD is upright; He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- He satisfies or fulfills us; even as we grow older on the outside, we become younger on the inside
 - Isa. 40:31 - “But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.”
 - 2Cor. 4:16 - “Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- He satisfies our need for goodness
 - Psalm 65:4 - “Blessed is the man You choose, And cause to approach You, That he may dwell in Your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, Of Your holy temple.”
 - Psalm 104:28 - “What You give them they gather in; You open Your hand, they are filled with good.”
 - Psalm 107:9 - “For He satisfies the longing soul, And fills the hungry soul with goodness.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- God takes care of our every need
 - Psalm 103:6-13 - “The LORD executes righteousness And justice for all who are oppressed. 7 He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the children of Israel. 8 The LORD is merciful and gracious, Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy. 9 He will not always strive with us, Nor will He keep His anger forever. 10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor punished us according to our iniquities. 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; 12 As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us. 13 As a father pities his children, So the LORD pities those who fear Him.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- He brings justice to the oppressed
 - Psalms 72:4 - “He will bring justice to the poor of the people; He will save the children of the needy, And will break in pieces the oppressor.”
 - Psalm 146:7 - “Who executes justice for the oppressed, Who gives food to the hungry. The LORD gives freedom to the prisoners.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- He teaches us His will and wisdom
 - Psalm 19:7-11 - “The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; 8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; 9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. 10 More to be desired are they than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. 11 Moreover by them Your servant is warned, And in keeping them there is great reward.”
 - 2Peter 1:3 - “His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- His character is compassionate, gracious, slow to anger, and merciful
 - Ex. 34:6-7 - “And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, 7 keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- He will never abandon us until we utterly reject Him, or else we would not survive
 - Isa. 57:16 - “For I will not contend forever, Nor will I always be angry; For the spirit would fail before Me, And the souls which I have made.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- He punishes us less than we deserve
 - Psalm 130:3 - “If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?”
 - Ezra 9:13 - “And after all that has come upon us for our evil deeds and for our great guilt, since You our God have punished us less than our iniquities deserve, and have given us such deliverance as this”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- He is very merciful to those who fear Him
 - Eph. 2:4-7 - “But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- He has removed our sins far from us; our sins are forever forgiven
 - Jer. 50:20 - “In those days and in that time, says the LORD, The iniquity of Israel shall be sought, but there shall be none; And the sins of Judah, but they shall not be found; For I will pardon those whom I preserve.”
 - Isa. 43:25 - “I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; And I will not remember your sins.”
 - 1John 1:7 - “But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- God's love lasts forever
 - Psalm 103:14-19 - “For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust. 15 As for man, his days are like grass; As a flower of the field, so he flourishes. 16 For the wind passes over it, and it is gone, And its place remembers it no more. 17 But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting On those who fear Him, And His righteousness to children's children, 18 To such as keep His covenant, And to those who remember His commandments to do them. 19 The LORD has established His throne in heaven, And His kingdom rules over all.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- God knows our limits
 - Psalm 78:39 - “For He remembered that they were but flesh, A breath that passes away and does not come again.”
 - Isa. 40:6-8 - “The voice said, Cry out! And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, And all its loveliness is like the flower of the field. 7 The grass withers, the flower fades, Because the breath of the LORD blows upon it; Surely the people are grass. 8 The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever”
 - James 4:14 - “Whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- In contrast to our frail temporary existence in this world, God's compassion is permanent in His realm
 - Jer. 31:3 - “The LORD has appeared of old to me, saying: Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you.”
 - Psalm 100:5 - “For the LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting, And His truth endures to all generations.”

The History Of God's Forgiveness

- God's reign is permanent, and He is in control. It is impossible that He will not keep His promise to save us
 - Psalm 103:19-22 - "The LORD has established His throne in heaven, And His kingdom rules over all. 20 Bless the LORD, you His angels, Who excel in strength, who do His word, Heeding the voice of His word. 21 Bless the LORD, all you His hosts, You ministers of His, who do His pleasure. 22 Bless the LORD, all His works, In all places of His dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!"

The Conditions Of God's Forgiveness

- Will God forgive me?
- Yes. God can do no less for you and remain faithful to His character
- Is God going to condemn me if I missed something?
- If you are living by His word, walking in the light, and learning day by day; when you stumble and learn of it and humbly repent and confess your sins, then God knows you, understands you, He knows your limits, and He is rich in compassion and mercy. You will be forgiven.

The Conditions Of God's Forgiveness

- 1John 1:5 - 2:2 - "This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. 6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us. 2:1 My little children, these things I write 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 the whole world."

The Conditions Of God's Forgiveness

- How can I know I've been forgiven?
 - 1John 2:3-6 - “Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. 4 He who says, I know Him, and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5 But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. 6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.”

The Conditions Of God's Forgiveness

- How can I know I've been forgiven?
 - 1John 5:13, 19-20 - "These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God... 19 We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one. 20 And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life."

The Conditions Of God's Forgiveness

- God has promised you salvation if you give yourself to Him through the Gospel.
- Where is your faith in the God of all creation, if you doubt this?