

WHAT TO REMEMBER-WHEN WE SIN! (2)

Micah 7:18-20

How do you respond to those times of life when you have sinned and violated your relationship with the Father? Do you immediately enter His presence and ask forgiveness, forgive yourself and walk on in your Christian life, or do you attempt to pay for your sins by some sort of act or actions. The one common denominator among all mankind is the very fact that we are “sinners by nature”. We were conceived in sin, we are under the curse of sin, and therefore there will be times in our lives when we sin and fail our Heavenly Father. Yet, sadly many Christians do not respond to their sins in a wise way, but rather they beat themselves up emotionally, deprive themselves, rather than placing their trust in the shed blood as the complete remedy for our sin debt. It is vital that we remember the truth of God in those times of life that we sin, if we are to live the abundant, exciting life that the Father has in store for us.

1. REMEMBER: WE HAVE A SAVIOUR THAT KNOWS THE VERY PULL OF TEMPTATION TO SIN.

Hebrews 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

Jesus didn't live His life in a vacuum, but lived on this real earth in the midst of sin, and all the sinful tendencies that this world brings. Jesus knew the reality of temptation. He knew the emotional tug of war with Satan. Consider the people he faced in His life. He faced those who were religious and claimed to know God...but hated Him. He faced individuals that betrayed Him. He faced others that denied Him. He faced those that walked away from. Yet never once did He sin.

Though He didn't sin...that doesn't mean He felt no pressure. Quite the contrary. The more He resisted, the more Satan attacked. We have a High Priest that knows the feelings and the emotional tug of war we face in this world of sin. Jesus is not looking from heaven in disbelief, but knows the pull of temptation on the human life and soul. In the life of Christ, he faced the reality of being tempted by Satan to use His appetites in a wrong way, just as Satan works on all mankind today. Jesus was tempted to use His powers in a distorted way. Jesus was even tempted to use His privileges in ways that were not honoring to the Father.

Since Satan attacked Jesus, he will attack all of the Father's children. Jesus knew the reality of living in a human body, and feeling the advances of Satan toward his body, just as we do toward ours. When we feel the pull of temptation to sin, we have a Savior that UNDERSTANDS us completely in these frail human bodies. Jesus lived in a human body day and night for 33 years, knowing every tendency, pressure and trial that we face. In love, He understands all we face. The Living Bible puts Hebrews 4:15 this way, *“This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses since he had the same temptations we do, though he never once gave way to them and sinned.”*

2. REMEMBER: THE PRICE FOR THE TOTALITY OF OUR SINS HAS BEEN PAID.

It is the very heart's desire of our Heavenly Father that we grasp the divine and wonderful truth that THE TOTALITY OF OUR SINS HAVE BEEN PAID. *Ephesians 2:13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. Matthew 26:28 For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. 1 Peter 2:24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.*

Through these verses and many more, our Heavenly Father yearns that we understand that our sins have been paid for. However, do you allow yourself to enjoy the fact that Jesus shed blood has taken care of the full payment of your sin debt?

It is on the heart of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, that you both know, and enjoy the freedom that has come through Jesus shed blood. Jesus didn't shed His life's blood for you to live your life under the guilt of sin, missing life at its best. It is the desire of God that you both live and enjoy the freedom from sin through the blood of Christ.

Galatians 5:1 declares, "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery." Since Christ has paid for your sins "once" they stand completely paid for, for all time. Paul lived his life, enjoying the forgiveness of God, because the Father brought him to realize that there was "absolutely nothing" he could add to the payment of Christ. Paul's wicked, ungodly actions toward other believers, had been completely dealt with, when Christ died on the cross, there was nothing that he had to do, and nothing he could add to the precious blood of Christ. The same holds true for each of our lives as well.

3. REMEMBER: THE BLOOD OF JESUS IS SUFFICIENT ENOUGH FOR YOUR COMPLETE SIN DEBT-HE DOESN'T NEED YOUR PAYMENT.

1 John 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

When Jesus Christ died on the cross, He died for the totality of our sins, and He cleansed us of all sins, meaning we have been washed by the shed blood of Christ from all sins, past, present and future. However, many live as though they must pay for their sins personally. There are so many ways we live as though we must pay for our sins. Do you find yourself living as though you must pay for your sins?

First, we deprive ourselves of the joys of life. One way we consciously or unconsciously attempt to pay for our sins is through depriving ourselves of something good. Many deprive themselves thinking it is "right" to do because of some sin they have committed in the past. However, the Father doesn't need both the blood of Christ and our performance. Only the blood of Christ will cleanse of sins.

Second, we attempt to repay God for His forgiveness by "performance based Christianity". If you are living under the cloak of "performance" you have allowed yourself to believe that will assist in paying for your sins. The truth is...it never has and never will.

Third, we beat ourselves up emotionally for sins committed. Only God knows the countless number of believers that are "beating themselves up" over past sins, when it truth, the Father was aware of what we would do even before birth.

Fourth, we live under a cloud of guilt, even though sins have been confessed. If you are living under a cloud of guilt, it is the Father's desire that you confess sin, forgive yourself, and walk on. Yet, sadly, so many do not...feeling they must live for an extended period of time under "a cloud of guilt". The sad reality is this...so many have been saved and forgiven of all sins, yet they never practically allow Jesus blood to be sufficient.

It is one thing to say "Jesus blood has cleansed me of all sins", and another thing all together to live enjoying that wonderful truth, and living it out each and every day. While the Father never condones sin, He has provided a complete payment for all sin, and it is His desire that we trust the payment of Christ's blood for our personal cleansing.

If you believe you must pay for your sins or you must do something for God to forgive you...you are not allowing God's truth to permeate your very being. The Bible is clear that the "blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from "ALL SIN". Since His blood has paid for all our sins, we have no debt...but to live our lives as a witness of His love, and grace to a lost world.

When Christ shed His blood at the cross...His blood had the power to cleanse and wash all mankind of all their sins, that would believe. Christ did not shed His blood and then ask us to "do something" to receive His forgiveness, **THE BLOOD IS COMPLETELY SUFFICIENT.**