



FORGIVENESS

God's Justice is Satisfied

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ON LINE HELPS FOR THE TEACHER

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Lesson 1

WOMAN IN THE HOUSE OF SIMON

NOTE TO THE TEACHER

The forgiveness of God passes human understanding. There is no sin so great or so vile that God cannot forgive. But even the smallest sin needs also to be forgiven by God.

The New Testament word *forgiveness* means “to send off” or “away.” The idea is that sin, when it is forgiven, is separated from the sinner. This does not mean, however, that God simply overlooks sin. He has said, “The soul that sinneth, it shall die” (Ezekiel 18:4, 20). And, according to Leviticus 17:11, “It is the blood (upon the altar) that maketh an atonement for the soul.” (See also Leviticus 4:35.) So it is clear that God requires a penalty for sin.

For hundreds of years before the coming of God the Son to earth, God the Father accepted the sacrificing of animals as substitutes. The sinner brought his animal to the tabernacle. It was slain and then burned upon the altar. Thus the sentence of death was paid by the death of the animal. Because man sinned repeatedly, he had to bring sacrifices again and again.

All of that was changed, however, after the death of the Lord Jesus Christ. The blood of bulls and goats and lambs is no longer acceptable to God. When God the Son gave His own blood willingly, He died in the place of every sinner. God the Father has accepted that one perfect sacrifice as a substitute for all the sins of the whole world (Hebrews 10:4-14).

Let it be remembered:

1. The penalty for sin is death (Romans 6:23).
2. The penalty must be paid (Hebrews 9:22).
3. The Lord Jesus paid the penalty with His blood (1 Peter 2:24).
4. By believing in the Lord Jesus Christ we receive forgiveness for our sins (Matthew 26:28).

In this series we shall learn in lesson one that *God can forgive sinners*; in lesson two, that *children of God must forgive those who sin against them*; and in lesson three, that *if someone has something against us, we must ask his forgiveness*.

You—and your pupils, also—should write the following truths in your notebooks under the heading FORGIVENESS:

1. The *origin* of forgiveness: *The love and grace of God.*
2. The *basis* of forgiveness: *The sacrifice of Christ.*
3. The *result* of forgiveness: *The death penalty of the sinner is paid.*
4. Two things involved in forgiveness:
(1) *The justice of God is satisfied.*
(2) *The sinner is separated from his sin.*

God demands full payment for sin before He can forgive!

Scripture to be studied: Luke 7:36-50

The aim of the lesson: To show that God is able and willing to forgive any sinner.

What your students should know: God can forgive sinners because His Son paid the penalty for sin—death.

What your students should feel: Unhappy over one's sins; the need to be forgiven.

What your students should do: Believe Jesus is the Son of God and receive Him as Saviour.

Lesson outline (for the teacher's and students' notebooks):

1. Seeking Jesus (Luke 7:36-37).
2. Finding Jesus (Luke 7:37-38).
3. Forgiven by Jesus (Luke 7:39-49).
4. Joy from Jesus (Luke 7:50).

The verse to be memorized:

And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. (Ephesians 4:32)