

STRASBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

IN HIM WE HAVE... THE FOREGIVENESS OF SINS... (Eph. 1:7)

Forgiveness is the divine miracle of grace. The cost to God was the Cross of Christ. To forgive sin, while remaining a holy God, this price had to be paid. Never accept a view of the fatherhood of God if it blots out the atonement. He cannot forgive - He would contradict His nature if He did. The only way we can be forgiven is by being brought back to God through the atonement of the Cross. God's forgiveness is only possible in the supernatural realm.

Compared with the miracle of the forgiveness of sin, the experience of sanctification is small. Sanctification is simply the wonderful expression or evidence of the forgiveness of sins in a human life. But the thing that awakens the deepest fountain of gratitude in a human being is that God has forgiven his sin. Paul never got away from this.

Once you realize all that it cost God to forgive you, you will be held as in a vise, constrained by the love of God shown each of us on the cross.

Beware of the false teaching that says, "God is so kind and loving that of course He will forgive every one of their sins." That type of thinking based solely on emotion, cannot be found anywhere in Scripture. The only basis on which God forgives us of our sins is through our faith in the finished work of Christ on the cross. To base our forgiveness of sins on any other ground is unconscious blasphemy. The Forgiveness we receive freely through the grace of God cost Christ His life. We should never forget the enormous cost to God that set all true believers free from sins enslavement.

Pastor Preston