

**April 21, 2025**

Because God is loyal and faithful

**Col. 2:13-14** *When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; He has taken it away, nailing it to the cross.*

Have you thought lately about how blessed you are? Many times we focus on our needs or hurts; maybe even dwell for some time in our sorrows, but I'm suggesting today, that we focus on the blessing of forgiveness. What is true forgiveness? In today's passage, Paul paints a picture of the depth of real forgiveness. *He forgave us all our sins*. Now that means all our sins. Not just the sins we committed yesterday or last week. He has forgiven every single sin of our entire life! And that is the real comfort and blessing of true forgiveness. He wiped the slate clean. Every sinful act or evil thought has been paid for by His precious blood. It is covered. It is atoned for. It is forgotten, never to be brought up again!

How did He do this? First, He forgave because of His great love for us. **John 3:16** *For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.* It was His great love for you and me that caused Him to give the greatest gift ever given. Secondly, He *canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness*. We all owed a debt that we could never pay. No matter how hard we try nor how long we work, we could never cover the cost of our salvation. **Titus 3:5-6** *He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, Whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior.* And lastly, *He has taken it away, nailing it to the cross*. In other words, as we looked at this yesterday, the cross is the place of death. Our sins, and the penalty of them, were put to death through our Savior, Jesus Christ. If that doesn't stir your soul or brings you to tears, nothing ever will. Oh, what a Savior! Oh, what a price You paid! You gave it all so that we could be saved!

**Dear LORD, You are so very good and we are so very blessed. Forgiveness is the greatest gift ever given. You have done this for us through the shed blood of Jesus. And you have removed our sins from the record permanently! We praise Your great Name! In Jesus Name, Amen**