

2nd Chance Christian Newsletter

Forgiveness

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Feb. 2004

The Bible tells us that if we repent and ask Jesus Christ to come into our lives and be our personal Lord and Saviour, we will receive forgiveness for our sins and receive eternal life.

Acts 20:21 Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

1) Repentance toward God because we have sinned against Him: **Romans 3:23** For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; 2) Faith toward Jesus Christ because He is our Lord and Saviour: **Philippians 3:20** For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:

3) The gospel that brings us salvation is the gospel of Jesus Christ: **1 Corinthians 15:1** Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;

2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you,

unless ye have believed in vain.

3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

Romans 10:9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

Most Christians think they understand about the forgiveness they have received from God through their faith in Jesus Christ for salvation and for their daily Christian walk. **1 John 1:9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to

cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

This month I want to cover something that appears difficult for us to give each other. That is the same forgiveness we want God to display toward us. When it comes to forgiving others we want to hang on to the debt we feel they owe us no matter what it does to us spiritually. We cling on to the anger we have for others until it eats away our insides, turns us bitter and fills us with resentment to the point we walk around the planet like a body looking for a casket to crawl in. We end up wearing our hurt feelings on our faces for the whole world to see. We carry our sick pathetic attitude around so every one can feel sorry for us. We wander around the planet looking for someone to care and when they don't we get even angrier and take it out on everyone else. We're like a mad dog that needs to be put to sleep.

You know us when you see us. We're all over the place. The last time we smiled dirt wasn't created yet. We carry

Forgiveness:

1] The act of forgiving; the pardon of an offender, by which he is considered and treated as not guilty. The forgiveness of enemies is a Christian duty.

2] The pardon or remission of an offence or crime; as the forgiveness of sin or of injuries.

3] Disposition to pardon; willingness to forgive.

4] Remission of a debt, fine or penalty.

(Noah Webster 1828 American Dictionary of The English Language)

Ephesians 1:7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Matthew 6:15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

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Special points of interest:

- Free: English & Spanish John & Romans
- Free: Blessed Promises Booklets {English Only}
- Free: ABC Salvation Booklet
- Free: The Destructive Power of Secrets Booklet.
- I have a few KJV English Gift & Award Bibles and Spanish Bibles for free. Just write and I will mail out what I have and put any extra names on a list and mail others out as I get them in.

Even though this material is primary free for inmates and rehab patients we will try to fill any request to send material to any lost or backslidden soul as God provides

around so much painful, miserable baggage, its like a funeral procession every time you meet us. You don't even want to ask how we're doing because it's the same old pain and misery we had the last time you talked to us.

Sometimes we have such a sad agonizing look on our face you're not

love of the Father is not in him.

16 For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

As for us Christians, we need to get a perspective on this forgiveness thing. We have it and they don't. If we have it then we need to live like it means something so people can see a difference between us and them. **2 Peter 2:9 The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:**

We can't be saved and not know how well we have it as far as eternal things go. **John 3:15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.**

If we have any attitude at all, it should be compassion for others. **1 John 3:11 For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.**

12 Not as Cain, *who* was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him?

day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

19 We love him, because he first loved us.

20 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he

even sure we'll get through the conversation without a doctor or if you should save everyone the hassle and call a mortician.

You know what I mean. The world (lost people) has a reason to be miserable. When they die they go to Hell. **John 3:18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that**

Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.

13 Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you.

14 We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not *his* brother abideth in death.

15 Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

16 Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren.

17 But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of *compassion* from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

18 My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

We show compassion for the lost by witnessing to them so they may know the love of God. **1 John 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.**

8 He that loveth not knoweth not

hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

21 And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

The lost don't know God nor do they love God. **John 5:42 But I know you, that ye have not the love of God in you.**

43 I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another

believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

They have all the reasons in the world to be miserable.

1 John 2:15 Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the

God; for God is love.

9 In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.

10 Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.

11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.

12 No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

13 Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.

14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son *to be* the Saviour of the world.

15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.

16 And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

17 Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the

shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.

God's love is commended but not everyone receives it. **Romans 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.**

Those without God's love should be miserable because they do not escape God's wrath. **Romans 5:9 Much more then, being now justified by his**

blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

As for us Christians we need to cling to the eternal promises of the scriptures not the temporal things of this world.

2 Corinthians 4:7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

8 We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;

9 Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;

but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory;

18 While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen *are* temporal; but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.

How can we be bitter in the light of things to come? We have the promise of eternal life: **1 John 5:13** These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God. The hope of glory: **Colossians 1:27** To whom God would make known what *is* the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which *is* Christ in you, the hope of glory: Riches of His grace: **Ephesians 2:7** That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in *his* kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. Unknown

zealous therefore, and repent.

Many people that accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour experience problems in their life when they go back to their sin. Whether it be drugs, sex or what ever it is. They know they're not supposed to do as a Child of God.

I don't think they understand as a child of the devil **John 8:44** Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not

10 Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.

11 For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh.

12 So then death worketh in us, but life in you.

13 We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and

promises:

1 Corinthians 2:9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

We have received God's mercy. **Titus 3:5** Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

6 Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; **7** That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

The next time we start to feel sorry for the situation we're in, think of what we have and what the lost don't have. All the promises above are because we first received forgiveness for our sins. Without that, when we stand before the Lord payment for our sins will still be required. So you see, none of the promises apply to those that are trying to get to heaven without Jesus Christ.

in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. sin just took it's natural course. **James 1:15** Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

The world doesn't know God. **1 Corinthians 2:14** But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he

therefore speak;

14 Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present *us* with you.

15 For all things *are* for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God.

16 For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward *man* is renewed day by day.

17 For our light affliction, which is

We must carry the same attitude of forgiveness we have received from God and give it to others.

Bitterness and resentment have brought many Christians to a point in their life where they hinder the Lord's will in their life. Some just wallow around in their own hurt and self pity. We need to be careful we don't let other people's sin bother us. All we really need to do is look at how we have sinned against God and how we have harmed others. **Romans 3:23** For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; **Romans 5:12** Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

What helped me is to study the attributes of God and see sin through God's holiness.

In the eyes of God sin is intolerable. In the child of God sin has to be dealt with. **Revelation 3:19** As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be

know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.

John 1:10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

A child of God has the Holy Spirit to guide him in all matters of righteousness. **1 Corinthians 2:10** But God hath revealed *them* unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. **1 John 5:6** (KJV) This is he that came by water and blood, *even*

Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. **And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth.**

Romans 8:16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

Peter ask the Lord a common question we have all ask at times. **Matthew 18:21** Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? The Lord's response was: **Matthew 18:22** Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven. Jesus response "Until seventy times seven" represents the second advent. What Jesus tells us in this verse is to forgive until He returns (The second coming of the Lord). **Daniel 7:13**

I saw in the night visions, and, behold, *one* like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. **14** And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom *that* which shall not be destroyed.

So the next time Satan tries to hinder your Christian walk with unforgiveness remember what we were saved from and what God expects from His children. **Matthew 22:36** Master, which *is* the great commandment in the law?

37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God

with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

38 This is the first and great commandmen

39 And the second *is* like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

We should keep the crucifixion of our Lord and Saviour in mind with these last verses. **John 15:12** This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

Philippians 2:8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

The Lord displayed His love to us when He died on the cross.

What have we done for Him?

Update: With all the snow and ice build up this winter my roof leaks. This is causing problems with moving forward with the bookstore aspect of 2nd Chance. Both the on line bookstore and catalogue will take longer. I have lost the use of a large room for storage because of water damage. This is just a minor set back, for the Lord can do all things. **Colossians 1:16** For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: **17** And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

Keep me in your prayers. There are a few things the Lord needs to work out in my life and ministry. **Ephesians 6:18**

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

19 And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, **20** For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

We went to a rehab last week and the response was very good. We were able fill request for a total 18 Bibles. There was a good response for other material also. Praise the Lord. We weren't able to give an alter call but we did what we could. We planted seeds and answered some questions now it's up to God to give the increase. **1 Corinthians 3:7**

So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.

8 Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.

9 For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.

10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Until next month, God bless.

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