

## THE CHARACTER OF GOD NEVER CHANGES

God's forgiveness in His heart toward humanity has no conditions. God never changes.

Romans 5:8 The Cross demonstrates God's love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. So God was forgiving people in His heart before the Cross. God's forgiveness in His heart toward humanity has no conditions. God freely forgives with no conditions.

God gives forgiveness from His heart freely.

But receiving forgiveness in the human heart has one condition. That condition is our cooperation with Spirit conviction to the point of having saving faith in Jesus. The Father has given His Son authority to win us by love, not to force us to love Him. We are to embrace His love and feel our responsibility.

God has no need to be changed in His heart. God has no need to punish anyone. Sin has its own punishment. Jesus died sinless to condemn sin to extinction. Jesus arose with the authority to take away all sin from creation. Now Jesus is taking away sin in cooperative hearts.

God loves humanity. God has no need to change His heart in favor of humanity. God is not punishing Jesus on the Cross to appease His wrath toward us. Instead, God is changing human hearts into new creations, and He will complete this work making us holy, blameless, guiltless, sinless, and totally righteous through sanctification and glorification. Ephesians 1:4

The Cross of Christ condemned sin to extinction, defeated Satan, and made opportunities for individuals to receive release from sin's bondage.

The blood of Jesus should not be called a covering for our sin as if our sin is hidden from God.

On the Cross, Jesus did not take punishment from God in place of the guilty. On the Cross, Jesus did not take our guilt upon Himself. Jesus did not become guilty in our place. Jesus did not pay our debt to sin. Jesus did not pay the penalty for our sin. The penalty for sin is eternal separation from God. The debt or wage to sin is eternal separation from God. On the Cross, God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself not counting their sins against them (2Cor. 5:19). God was personally present in Christ at the Cross. Christ was not separated from the Father. Christ did not become sin on the Cross. Christ became the sin offering, the sacrifice which takes away the sin of the world. Christ takes away

the sin of the world by condemning sin to extinction (Romans 8:3; Colossians 1:19,20). God only reconciles people to Himself. God never reconciled Himself to people. God's heart is already at peace. God never changes.

If you think Jesus is changing God's heart in your favor, your faith is misapplied.

If you think Jesus has hidden your sin from God and that there are no eternal consequences for your sin, your faith is misapplied.

Moral failure happens when a person stops repenting of sin daily. Many false concepts attributed to Jesus lead to false conversions and moral failure to believers.

Some excuse their sin thinking that God has allowed Jesus to be punished in their place.

Some excuse their sin thinking there is no remedy for sin since we all fall short of the glory of God and all our righteousness is like filthy rags.

These excuses for sin are all built on false premises.

Jesus did pay the price for sin's condemnation and future extinction.

Jesus did nail the governance of the Law of sin and death to the Cross. Believers are indwelt by the Spirit and do not have to sin and experience sin's consequences. The Spirit empowers believers to stop a sin and start doing righteous acts empowered by the Spirit. Christ frees us from the Law of sin and death. Romans 8:2-4 Colossians 2:14 (Not that we become perfect in this flesh.)

By nailing the written decree to the Cross, Jesus became humanity's God-given substitute for Adam and gained the Way for man to be changed through new birth, sanctification, and ultimately glorification.

Believers in Christ are moved out from under the written decree, moved out from under the wrath of God, and removed from the penalty of sin. God already sees believers as complete in Christ. But we still have the responsibility to cooperate with the Spirit in sanctification (Colossians 2:6-10).