

INTERPRETATION OF SCRIPTURE IS SOMETIMES BASED ON TRADITIONS OF MEN

Some of the most damaging and error-filled interpretations of Scripture have arisen through the traditions of men. A key verse used by traditions of men which is damaging to the image of Jesus is 2 Corinthians 5:21. "For He has made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin..."

In context of all Scripture, the correct understanding of this passage is "For God the Father has made Jesus, who knew no sin, to be the sin offering for us..."

The error-filled interpretation claims that Jesus became sin and God the Father punished Jesus in our place to appease His wrath against us and satisfy justice.

This interpretation does not flow true with Scripture. Jesus did not become sin. The following interpretation flows true with all Scripture.

Jesus is God and could not become sin. Rather, Jesus became the sin offering. Romans 8:3 "an offering for sin" Hebrews 10:12 "After He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, He sat down on the right hand of God."

God the Father and Jesus the Son allowed Jesus' human body to be abused by our sin and unjustly killed by the courts of men so that sin is eternally condemned and sentenced to removal from all creation. Condemnation of sin is proven in the courts of Heaven. Jesus is the Lamb, worthy of exercising all power, authority, and defeat over all realms of wickedness. Jesus arose defeating sin, death, and Satan and Jesus is given, by God the Father, all authority to judge Heaven and Earth. Scripture has outlined Jesus' plan for sin removal for repentant believers and sin removal from all creation. Revelation 5 John 5:22

Adam sinned and Adam died. Jesus is humanity's God given substitute for Adam (Romans 5). Jesus succeeded where Adam failed. Jesus defeated sin and condemned sin. Jesus allowed His physical body to be killed by the sin of humanity and God condemns sin because of Jesus' sinless death (Romans 8:3). Jesus is given the right to reverse what Adam caused (Romans 8). The born again believer has followed Jesus to the Cross and has died to his sole relationship to Adam and is born to new life in Christ. Sin is ultimately removed from those "in Christ" and thus those "in Christ" escape the penalty for sin. Jesus' one act of righteousness, dying sinless, enables God's condemnation of sin to its utter removal from all creation. Believers are declared righteous and are ultimately made sinless. God changes the believer. God has no need to be changed in Himself. Jesus had no need to change God in order to allow God to accept us. Jesus died a physical, sinless death condemning sin to extinction so that believers don't have to die the second death.

God will save whosoever will cooperate with Holy Spirit conviction and believe in Jesus who God sent to save us from sin (John 1:29). All people have the ability to respond to Spirit conviction but some consistently refuse.

Jesus is able and willing to save repentant people who believe in Him for forgiveness of sin. Jesus saves by changing the believer into a new creation. The blood of Jesus, His death, justifies God in reconciling Creation to Himself. Romans 5:10 The resurrected life of Jesus enters the repentant believer in the person of the Holy Spirit.

Forgiveness of sin from God's perspective is different from what is being implied in churches today.

Forgiveness of sin which comes upon the born again believer should be defined as follows. God has let go of the wrongs the believer has done against Him. God is rescuing the believer from bondage to sin. God promises to complete the work of rescue and make the believer totally sinless and totally righteous in glory.

True belief will result in some degree of believer cooperation with Holy Spirit rescue from bondage to sin. The disciplinary hand of God will be engaged in this rescue. Believers are being changed. Believers are moved out from under the wrath of God due to the believer being made into a new creation. Believers are moved out from under the penalty of sin due to their ultimate state in glory of total sinlessness and total righteousness.

Forgiveness of sin does not mean that God is appeased of His anger toward your sin. God will remove the believer from sin even to the extent of killing the believer's physical body.

Forgiveness of sin does not mean that God is hiding your sin from His eyes. God sees and God disciplines.

Forgiveness of sin does not mean that God has changed Himself in any way concerning His attitude toward your sin. Jesus did not change God to be in your favor. God was already in your favor before the Cross.

Jesus saves us from the penalty of sin by changing us. The sinless death and resurrection of Jesus gives Him the right to change us into new creations for all who believe in Him for release from sin. To be forgiven of sin truly means to be released from sin.