

## **The Wednesday Word, August 2, 2017: Set Apart Forever!**

*Hebrews 13:12: Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without (outside) the gate.*

Grace people are often falsely accused of teaching that anyone can sin and get away with it.

We don't teach that at all.

What we do teach is that, because of grace alone, we are in Christ and, in Christ, there is a superabundance of grace to cover us when we fall. We are sanctified, redeemed, purchased, and legally set apart unto God by the blood, and nothing can destroy that which God has accomplished. Since believers are the recipients of eternal redemption (Hebrews 9:12), we will neither be re-sold into the slavery of sin nor prised away from the Saviour. We cannot fall from His loving, powerful hands.

We are set apart, forever, because of Gospel grace. We are in the New Covenant. The blood has made us perfect in the sight of God.

Adolph Saphir writes; "The Holy Ghost Himself witnessed by the prophet Jeremiah that the New Covenant was connected with complete and eternal forgiveness of sin. ...The characteristic of the New Testament standing of believers is that they are free from sin in the sight of God and that always and forever. "No more remembrance of sin;" because Christ is seated at the right hand of God. This is our sanctification; this is our standing before God."

Adolph Saphir: *The Epistle to the Hebrews*: Kregel Publications: Page 645.

Consider this:

"The Scriptures say, all our sins are removed- cast behind His back: (Isaiah 38:17).

They were cast into the depth of the Sea (Micah 7:19).

As far as the East is from the West, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us (Psalm 103:12).

But there's more! Our sins are covered: (Psalm:32:1).

However, a thing may be covered and still have being. Therefore, God says they are blotted out, (Isaiah. 44:22)

Now our sins are not, they have no being. But God can remember things that are not. To remedy this, God says,

"I will remember their sins no more" (Jeremiah 31:34)."

(Adapted from Samuel Richardson, 'Justification by Christ Alone,' AD 1646)

If a priest of Israel sinned (Leviticus 4:2-5), he did not begin working harder. He didn't say, "Now, wait a minute, I am not sanctified enough. I need to do more." He did not look back, he didn't look inside himself, —he almost didn't do anything. He instead brought a bullock to the Lord. But, even that required a little work. Bullocks are substantial beasts. Work was needed to bring the sacrifice ... this shows one of the flaws in the Old Covenant!

In the New Covenant, however, when we sin, we only need by faith to bring the Lamb, the Lord Jesus Christ. In Hebrews 10:10 we read; “By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” We, as sinners, by faith, bring the offering that has been presented 2000 years ago. Back then, at Calvary, Christ offered Himself, and He is the offering we bring. But, we don’t have to carry him or lead Him, we simply, by faith, present Christ and His shed blood.

Someone asks, “How long do I have to wait to be restored after I sin?” The answer is simple, there is no waiting time. While there may be necessary time given in the church assembly, decreed for healing and restoration to service after a serious fall, there is no fellowship probation in Heaven’s courtroom. Bring the blood and enjoy instant communion with the Father. We have already been purchased forever. He does not cast us off and spurn us.

Jesus was numbered with the transgressors and placarded on the accursed cross. As our sin offering, He was reckoned as being sin. To the unbelieving Jews, He was a curse. Indeed, multitudes of people to this day find no beauty in Him.

However, this same, despised and rejected Saviour, who poured out His blood and died, rose from the dead, ascended to Heaven and entered the holiest place with His own blood. We look to Him and not ourselves. He is our hope. He is our confidence!

And that’s the Gospel Truth!