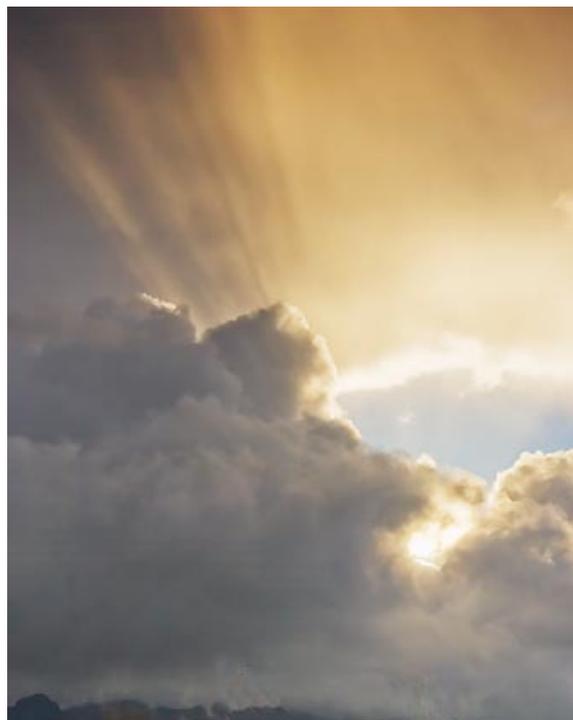


"It is of the LORD'S Mercies that we are not consumed, because His Compassions fail not. They are New every morning: Great Is Thy Faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22-23 KJV

When we return to the obedience of God's Word, The very act of obeying God confesses we believe we sinned against God. We may be sincerely remorseful, but unless we repent by returning to obedience, we have not confessed. God forgives and forgets our sins if we repent. *"He hath not Dealt with us after our sins; nor Rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as the heaven is high above the earth, so Great is His Mercy toward them that fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He Removed our transgressions from us. Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD Pitieth them that fear Him. For He Knoweth our frame; He Remembereth that we are dust. 'For I will be Merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I Remember no more."* We seldom forget a wrong. It is a God-like attribute to be forgiving, but it is more God-like to forget. We cannot fully forget until we fully forgive. As long as we dwell on a wrong from another, we will be hurt. Our mercies need to be fresh daily. Feeling



vengeful? Revisit the Cross. *"Blessed are the merciful. Love your enemies. Do good to them that spitefully use you."* You may say, "But, they keep doing it!" We also keep sinning, but God keeps forgiving, and forgiving, and forgiving, ad infinitum. Once Forgiven by God, a sin is Forgotten. Satan wants to hinder us with whispers of guilt. We are never told anywhere in Scripture to feel guilty about confessed, forgiven sin. The Apostle was buffeted daily by a messenger of Satan, so much so, that he pleaded with God three times to remove it. God's reply was, *"My Grace Is Sufficient for you."* In other words, "Don't worry about it!" Satan wants us to FEEL guilty when we are Forgiven, because if we FEEL guilty, we'll be hesitant to give the Gospel. Remember, it's not YOUR Gospel. It's Christ's Gospel, and it's His Power that Applies it. You are only a messenger. Now, if that pops your bubble, so be it. Paul said, *"God was in Christ, Reconciling the world unto Himself...and hath Committed unto us the Word of Reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ."* We can give His Majesty a bad reputation by living wickedly, but rest assured; we will not be left long as ambassador. The next time you feel hurt by someone, forgive fully, like your Father in Heaven and forget it. Remembering wrong done to us only serves to trouble us. Satan likes nothing better than reminding us of the insults of others, because he wants to rob us of God's Peace and Joy. *"Great Peace have they which love Thy Law and NOTHING shall offend them."* Next time you are tempted to hold a grudge, remember, your sin may cost someone the Message of Eternal Life!

Our Lord forgets when we confess,
And we to all should do no less,
If we forgive the wrongful deed,
We'll find our hearts no longer bleed. –CGP

Holding a grudge is letting someone live in your head rent-free. Why should we let, and it is our choice, another's sin affect our Peace and Joy? Let's forgive one another for Christ's Sake as He Forgave us. God's Mercies are New every day. We are to reconcile men to God, not alienate them from Him.

"Put on therefore, as the Elect of God, Holy and Beloved, bowels (emotions) of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ Forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on Charity (the Love of God), which is the Bond (constraint) of Perfectness. And LET the Peace of God Rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are Called in One Body; and be ye thankful." Colossians 3:12-15 KJV