

THE FALLACY OF THE FORGIVENESS CENTERED GOSPEL

The gospel of Jesus Christ is truly centered on entrance into the Kingdom of God and of following King Jesus with one's very life. Participation in the Cross of Jesus and living in obedience to Jesus should be the focus of the gospel message. We die to the old way of life and are raised to newness of life.

Because of the Cross, Jesus has the authority and the power to remove sin and produce righteousness in the believer. At the moment of regeneration, Jesus credits the believer with righteousness that will be produced in the believer. God promises to complete the work He began in you.

Forgiveness is not the goal of the gospel of Jesus Christ. The unregenerate mind would like to have forgiveness without a change in lifestyle and without repentance. A forgiveness centered gospel produces people who think they are secure in God's love without regeneration. Praying a prayer to receive Jesus without repentance and without saving faith in cooperation with the Holy Spirit does not yield regeneration.

A false understanding of the Cross of Jesus leads to a forgiveness centered gospel. Jesus did not die to give you forgiveness of sins and wipe your slate clean. Jesus died to have the right to remove sin from all creation and make new creations of all who believe in Him for deliverance from sin to righteousness.

Regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification delivers the believer totally from sin and totally to righteousness. It is Jesus who lives in the believer and produces righteous actions throughout sanctification. The righteousness the believer receives at justification is a credited righteousness to the believer's account. God sees the believer complete in Christ at the time of regeneration. Col. 2:6-15

The regenerated believer has redemption through His blood. Redemption means deliverance from sin to righteousness. We also have forgiveness of sins. Colossians 1:14 God has freely forgiven believer's of all sin judicially which includes taking us out of our bondage and the dungeon of our sin. Forgiveness is more than clearing our debt. It is removing us from sin to righteousness. We have no debt because God sees us complete and made totally sinless and totally righteous through Jesus' life in us. We are saved by His life. Rom. 5:10

