

Bible verses about God's Forgiveness

The following Bible verses about God's Forgiveness will help you to understand that all you need to ask and you will be forgiven.

Isaiah 55:7

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Throughout the Scriptures, you can find verses where God is calling his people back to him. He tells them to repent from evil ways and embrace righteousness. But his forgiveness is not dependent on our actions. God is a merciful God whose forgiveness is an outpouring of his love. He doesn't forgive us begrudgingly - He does so abundantly and with joy.

2 Chronicles 7:14

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

The Old Testament gives us a myriad of stories about how God interacted with the nation of Israel, his chosen people. There is a collective nature to his relationship with them. He tells them to return to him, and he will heal their land. But, on the contrary, there are times when he puts them into exile to remind them of their dependence on him and draw them into repentance.

While we as individuals function differently than the nation of Israel, these verses are still a good reminder that God is constantly calling us into repentance.

His forgiveness is not based on our worthiness, but our relationship with him does go two ways. He treats us with great patience when we stray. He will not force us to love him, but he will draw near to us intimately when we come to him with humble hearts.

Daniel 9:9

To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against him;

Forgiveness is such a tenant of our faith BECAUSE of who God is. He doesn't forgive because he has to. He forgives because he is merciful in his very nature. Though we, in our humanity, do not always possess the same mercy or wisdom, he helps us to regard others with those same traits.

Hebrews 8:12

For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.

We often hear the phrase, "forgive and forget." The term has become cliché and trite because we know how impossible it truly feels to move on after being hurt. Some don't like the phrase because simply shoving the feelings down without addressing the pain can be unhealthy. But that's not what God does with our sin.

He doesn't make every mark of it vanish without any consequence. Often we experience a relational rift between him or our friends when we break their trust. God doesn't simply forget our sin ever happened, as if it carried no weight.

Instead, God pardons us from the punishment of our sin. He no longer counts it against us. When we reach heaven, it will no longer be our sin that determines whether we are worthy to enter the kingdom. When Hebrews says he will remember our iniquities no more, it means he has washed us clean with the blood of the Lamb, and we are free from condemnation.

He doesn't just awkwardly pretend it never happened. The Father acknowledges the weight of our sin; the Son has borne it on the cross and paid the ultimate price so that the Spirit can dwell in our hearts and sanctify us in His power. It is our Father's love that makes these truths carry far more meaning than just "forgive and forget."

Isaiah 1:18

Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

Sometimes we talk about forgiveness so much in the church that the word seems to lose its meaning. When we are told to forgive others, it's easy to either flippantly let it go or begrudgingly forgive out of obligation. Neither of those reflects the true heart of forgiveness God shows us.

The ancient Israelites may have understood the weight of their sin far better than we do, even if they didn't know the whole gospel yet. It was a regular part of their worship to sacrifice animals to pardon their sins.

They saw the death that was required when they strayed from God. They knew how bloody the altar got when it was time for the sacrifice. They knew that it was only God's grace that allowed them to sacrifice an animal in their place. And even though they didn't know the Lamb of God yet, they knew their need for Him.

So when the writer of Isaiah was recording his myriad of messianic prophecies, this one stands out. This is a proclamation of hope. Even when the temple flowed with streams of animal blood, redemption was available. God would wash their sins white as snow and pure as wool.

There would not be a single stain left when God was done saving His people. Knowing what we know now, we can rejoice at the work Jesus did and hold fast to the forgiveness that God has already offered us through His Son.

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

It's easy to feel shame when we sin or stray from God. This shame too often silences us. Like Adam and Eve in the garden, our first instinct is to hide. We see the deep depravity of our own hearts and we fear that we will be rejected or cast out by God or those around us. So we hide and we distance ourselves from God.

But God wants us to come to Him! He promises us that when we confess our sins to him, he will not cast us away. Instead, he will forgive us and wash that sin away for good. He is faithful to us even when we break our promises or mess things up. He doesn't ask us to be perfect, he just asks us to come to him and confess.