

Divine Amnesia

Hebrews 10:17-18

"Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more" – is a striking verse, repeated other places. The prophet Jeremiah (31:34), the prophet Isaiah (43:25), and Hebrews 8:12 make this same statement. It is one of the blessings of the New Covenant and the reason why no more sacrifices are offered (v. 18).

I. God's amnesia regarding our sin is intentional, not accidental.

The older we get the more accidental our forgetfulness becomes. We don't *choose* it, but we forget. Not so with God. *"O the depth of the wisdom and **knowledge** of God"* (Romans 11:33). There is not one thing hidden from God's sight. *"O Lord, You have searched me and known me"* (Psalm 139:1). Our natural tendency when we are fully and completely known is to flee from the one who knows us. *"Where can I go from Your Spirit? Where can I flee from Your presence?"* (Ps. 139:7). Where indeed?

A. You flee to Christ where there is found remission of sins.

Jesus Christ is the Offering through whom we find our sins remitted, cleansed, or blotted out.

"I am the one who blots out your transgressions ... I will not remember your sins" (Is. 43:25).

Have you ever known anyone who passes out at the sight of blood? God moves into amnesia at the sight of His Son's blood. *"What can wash away my sins, nothing but the blood of Jesus!"*

B. You flee to Christ where there is found righteousness of life.

I like to call it "The Great Transaction." At the cross Christ receives all your sins and iniquities and by faith you receive all His righteousness and holiness. The consequences of your sins He bore at Calvary and the blessings of His righteousness you receive for eternity. This is Divine amnesia.

II. God's amnesia regarding our sin is global, not partial.

One of the secondary definitions of global is 'all-encompassing.' God's amnesia encompasses all sin. Notice the two words that are used for our faults in this text: *"Their **sins** and their **lawless deeds** ..."* Acts of omission and commission are encompassed here as well as the personal and the ceremonial. You are a person who is plagued with guilt for what you have done in life, or possibly for the good that you failed to do. There is absolutely no remembrance of your sin when you are in Christ Jesus.

A. There is no remembrance now. God's favor is on you because of Christ, not your commitment.

God is not like your mother or your father, who may say they forgive, but they cannot forget it.

"I will remember no more." There is no need to barter, beg or borrow – simply rest in His Son.

B. There is no remembrance tomorrow. Any fear of meeting God because of the things he will bring up about what you did or didn't do is totally missing the grand point of Hebrews 10:17.

There will be people who give an account to God for their sins (Rom. 14:12), every single one of them. This dreadful accounting is called "the day of wrath" (Zeph. 1:15). You have escaped it.

III. God's amnesia regarding our sin is actual, not theological.

This is not a theological treatise. This is personal and experiential manna for your soul. God forgets. since God forgets your sins and iniquities, there are things that should be true of your Christian life.

A. A boldness in communion, fellowship and prayer with Him. *"Come boldly before Him"* (v. 22).

B. A refusal to allow ourselves to be duped into believing our performance brings His cleansing.

This is the point of (v. 18). *"There is no longer any offering for sin."* Whatever you do out of guilt, you might as well not do at all! Serve, give, love, and worship out of abounding grace.

C. A willingness to forgive and forget the sins of others in the same manner God does you.

The law of sowing and reaping drives people to the grace of God. Sometimes you refuse to rescue and enable, but when there is forgiveness requested, you forgive and naturally forget.