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"100 Bible Lessons" written and copyrighted
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to China who died in 1996 in Canada.

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"Your sins are forgiven you." Jesus is not here bodily today but He is here invisibly ready to forgive each one of us. *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.* Forgiveness cannot be found in any church, sacrament or ordinance but alone in Christ.

THE FOUNDATION OF FORGIVENESS

1. Forgiveness is bestowed on the ground of the Lord's compassion. *Psalm 78:38, "But He being full of compassion, forgave their iniquity, and destroyed them not."*
2. Forgiveness is bestowed on the ground of Divine justice. *1 John 1:9, "... faithful and just to forgive;..."* God can forgive sin and yet remain holy and just.
3. Forgiveness is bestowed on the basis of the Blood of Christ. *Ephesians 1:7, "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins,..."* The blood is the propitiatory work of Christ. On the cross He shed His blood as a ransom and complete payment for our eternal redemption. God has decreed that, *"The soul who sins shall die," Ezekiel 18:4.* Sin brought death, and because man sinned, as a consequence he must die. *Genesis 2:17, "... for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."* God has always required blood, symbolical of death as

THE CONDITION OF MAN



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5. **Perdition** - a prospective word signifying destruction and damnation. *1 Timothy 6:9, "... fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition."*
6. **Punishment** - a conscious word signifying penal infliction. *Matthew 25:46, "And these will go away into everlasting punishment,..."*
7. **Eternal fire** - a durative word signifying the length of punishment. *Jude 7, "... having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire."*
8. **Hell** - the abode of the devil and those who follow him. *Matthew 25:41, "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:..."*
9. **Lake of fire** - the second death. *Revelation 20:14, "And Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death."*

THE REMEDY FOR SIN

Christ in His atonement and resurrection is the only remedy for sin. *John 1:29, "Behold! The Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"* *1 John 3:5, "And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him is*

SIN

INTRODUCTION

Today men mock at sin considering it as only a human weakness or tendency. When a sense of sin falls upon mankind they will turn to God for mercy. Not until we understand the awfulness of sin can we understand Calvary; only as we comprehend the meaning of Calvary do we see the exceeding sinfulness of sin as viewed by a holy, righteous God.

DEFINITION OF SIN

The dictionary calls SIN, transgression, evil, a violation of an accepted moral, religious or social code. Sin is any lack of conformity to the character of God whether in act or state. Sin is a hopelessly incurable disease of the soul (the leprosy or cancer of sin). Sin is characteristic of the old nature, the flesh and finds expression daily. *1 John 3:4, "Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness."*

1. Sin is an act; the breaking of a law or commandment is sin.
2. Sin is a state; the fallen state of man without righteousness.

no sin." No man can cleanse himself from sin. *Job 9:30-31, ³⁰If I wash myself with snow water, and cleanse my hands with soap, ³¹Yet You will plunge me into the pit, And my own clothes will abhor me."* *Jeremiah 2:22, "For though you wash yourself with lye, and use much soap, yet your iniquity is marked before Me," says the Lord God."* The remedy for sin is forgiveness through the blood of Christ. *Ephesians 1:7, "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins,..."* *1 John 1:7, "...if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin."* *Galatians 3:22, "But the Scripture has confined all under sin..."* *Romans 3:23, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."*

CONCLUSION

Christ is the required Savior for He alone was without sin. *2 Corinthians 5:21, "For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."* *Hebrews 4:15, "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin."* *1 John 3:5, "...and in Him is no sin."* *1 Peter 2:22, "Who committed no sin..."* God is too holy to condone or look

NOTES:

can forgive: only God can forgive you. *Luke 7:49, "... began to say to themselves, 'Who is this that forgives sins?' "* *Mark 2:7, "Why does this man speak blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"* The Jews in both cases were correct for only God can forgive sin. Never go to a human being for forgiveness when you've broken God's law; go directly to God. Never go to a human mediator for forgiveness; go directly to the One sinned against. *1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive..."* He, the Lord God, the holy One, the Giver of the law, is willing to forgive sinners. Because Jesus is both God and the Son of God, He has been appointed to forgive sin. *Acts 5:31, "...Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins."*

THE CHANNEL OF FORGIVENESS JESUS CHRIST

Acts 13:38, "Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through this Man (Jesus Christ) is preached to you the forgiveness of sins." This is the wonderful message of salvation to sin-burdened souls. In *Luke 7:48*, the Savior personally forgave the woman, *"Your sins are forgiven."* In *Mark 2:9*, Jesus personally forgave the palsied man,

and confess our sins, the blood of Jesus Christ is available to forgive us. Repentance involves forsaking the sin. Shall we continue in sin then, that grace may abound, because God will readily forgive us, anyway? This question was introduced in *Romans 6:1,15*, and answered by the Lord through Paul in *Romans 6:2,15*, "Certainly not!" for such a thought is an abomination to the Lord. How often should we forgive someone who sins against us? The Savior answered this question in *Matthew 18:21-35*, not for seventy times, but continuously.

CONCLUSION

Romans 3:23, "...all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." By grace through Jesus we have forgiveness of all our sins, past, present and future. *Ephesians 1:7*, "In Him (Jesus) we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace."

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FORGIVENESS

INTRODUCTION

By virtue of the fall of man all men have become sinners. Sin is the one thing that will keep men out of heaven; heaven is a holy place and nothing evil shall ever enter there. The keynote to getting to heaven is forgiveness; if God forgives us our sins then no one will be able to prevent us from entering heaven. To sinful man forgiveness becomes the most important problem in his life. In the Old Testament there are three words for forgiveness: One means "to cover", another means "to lift away", and the third means "to send away". In the New Testament forgiveness is the separation of the sinner from his sins through the sacrifice of Christ and upon the ground of pure grace.

THE AUTHOR OF FORGIVENESS GOD ALONE

Since the sinner has broken the law of God, only God can forgive him that sin. If you steal my hammer, I can forgive you for that. But if you break the law of another country, I do not have the authority to forgive you for that. When you break the law of God no man on earth

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3. Sin is a nature; the nature of fallen man at enmity against God.

ORIGIN OF SIN

1. Sin originated with Satan, *Isaiah 14:12-14*. This is explained in *James 1:14-15*, " ¹⁴ But each one is tempted when he is drawn away of his own desires, and enticed. ¹⁵ Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death."
2. Sin entered the world through Adam. *Romans 5:12*, "Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin,..."
3. The fact of the fall of man, *Genesis 3:1-6*.
 - a. listened to the slanders against God
 - b. doubted God's love and His Word
 - c. looked at what God had forbidden
 - d. lusted for what God had prohibited
 - e. absolute disobedience to God's commands.

THE MANIFESTATIONS OF SIN

1. **Transgression** - the overstepping of the law. *Psalms 51:1*, "Blot out my transgressions."
2. **Iniquity** - an act inherently wrong or forbidden, as breaking a commandment.

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at sin. *Habakkuk 1:13*, "You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, and cannot look on wickedness." *Psalms 97:10*, "You who love the Lord, hate evil!" *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." *Proverbs 28:13*, "He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy."

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3. **Error** - the departure from right. *Isaiah 5:20*, "... Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; ..."
4. **Missing the mark** - the failure to meet the divine standard. *1 John 5:17, Romans 3:23*.
5. **Trespass** - the intrusion of the self-will into the sphere of God's authority.
6. **Lawlessness** - this is spiritual anarchy. *1 Timothy 1:9*, "... the law is not made for a righteous person, but for the lawless and insubordinate,"
7. **Debt** - a failure in duty, the sin of omission, the things that we leave undone.
8. **Unbelief** - an insult to the divine veracity of God. *Hebrews 3:12*, "... lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God;"

LIST OF SINS

1. *Exodus 20:3-17*, (The Ten Commandments): no other gods, idolatry, cursing, Sabbath breaking, disrespect to parents, murder, adultery, stealing, lying, covetousness. (10 sins)
2. *1 Corinthians 6:9-10*, fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, homosexuals, sodomites, thieves, covetous, drunkards, revilers, extortioners. (10 sins)

LAW AND GRACE

INTRODUCTION

There are many Christians who are saved by grace but try to keep saved by obeying the law or keeping the commandments. This was the error of the Galatians church which Paul seeks to correct in his Epistle to the Galatians. *Galatians 3:3*, "Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit (saved by grace), are you now made perfect by the flesh (keeping of the law)?" Paul answers this provocative question in *Galatians 3:11*, "... the just shall live by faith." We are saved by faith; we live by faith, without law-keeping. But does this allow us to become a law unto ourselves and break the law of God and sin willfully? Paul answers this question in *Romans 6:1-2*, "... God forbid..." It is sometimes hard to keep a balance between the teaching of Paul and of James. James says in *James 2:14*, "What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works?" *James 2:20*, "But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?" Paul answers this in *Philippians 2:12-13*, "... work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³ for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure." By faith we yield to the indwelling Christ and

remission of sins." In the story in *Luke 7:36-50*, the woman expressed her repentance in tears and humility.

2. Faith. *Luke 7:50*, "Your faith has saved you," repentance led to faith and forgiveness.
3. Confession. *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." The un-confessed sin cannot be forgiven; let us pray that the Holy Spirit will reveal the sins to us and give us grace to confess every one. *Psalm 32:5*, "I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord, and You forgave the iniquity of my sin." This was David's experience and it can be our experience, too.
4. Forgiving others. *Matthew 6:15*, "But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." See also *Luke 6:37*. Let us remember the exhortation of *Ephesians 4:32*, "And be kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you." Forgiveness should be easy for a Christian as pictured in *Matthew 18:21-35*.

THE FREQUENCY OF FORGIVENESS

How often can we be forgiven? As often as we sin

does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness," Is the believer under law after conversion? No! *Romans 6:14*, "... for you are not under the law, but under grace." Scripture could not be plainer. How ought a true believer to walk before his fellowmen? ... As Jesus walked. *1 John 2:6*, "He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked." *1 Peter 2:21*, "... that you should follow His steps." Those who are in Christ while not saved or kept by the law, nevertheless love the will of God and do from the heart those things which please Him, not for salvation nor by constraint, but for love's sake, as they walk in the Spirit. *Galatians 5:18*, "But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law." *Romans 8:4-5*. To be saved by faith and then to return to works is to fall from grace, *Galatians 5:4*.

spend eternity in hell. *Revelation 21:27*, "But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination..." One sin can contaminate you and heaven forever; one sin brought death on all men.

THE POSSESSION OF FORGIVENESS

"We have", a present possession. Many expect to wait until after death to know whether or not they have been forgiven. The Gospel brings the glad news of a forgiveness that is a present possession. *Ephesians 1:7*, "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins." The woman in *Luke 7:36-50* received forgiveness immediately. *1 John 2:12*, "I write to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for His Name's sake." We present a positive Gospel message that men might know assuredly here and now that their sins have been forgiven beyond the shadow of a doubt.

THE CONDITIONS OF FORGIVENESS

1. Repentance. *Acts 5:31*, "... to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins." Repentance comes before forgiveness; repentance is turning from sin unto God. *Acts 2:38*, "Then Peter said unto them, Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the

3. *Romans 1:29-31*, unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness, envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness, whispers, backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful. (23 sins)
 4. *1 Timothy 1:9-11*, lawlessness, insubordinate, ungodly, unholy, profanity, manslayer, fornicators, sodomites, kidnappers, liars, perjurers. (11 sins)
 5. *Colossians 3:5-8*, fornication, uncleanness, evil desire, covetousness, disobedience. (5 sins)
 6. *Galatians 5:19-21*, adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentious, envy, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, heresies, dissensions, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like. (18 sins)
 7. *Mark 7:20-23*, evil thoughts, adultery, fornications, murders, thieves, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. (13 sins)
- A total of over fifty different sins with many variations of each one.

SIN CANNOT BE HIDDEN

Numbers 32:23, "But if you do not do so, then take note, you have sinned against the Lord; and be sure your sin

man would have no knowledge of sin. *Romans 3:20*, "... for by the law is the knowledge of sin." The law was a schoolmaster to bring us to Christ. *Galatians 3:24*, "Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith." Justified by faith, for we cannot be saved by works or law.

2. Grace was given to man not because man merited it, but because God loved the world of sinners. *John 3:16*, "For God so loved the world, that He gave..." Grace is given to us for we are too weak to save ourselves, to keep the law or to do good works. *2 Corinthians 12:9*, "And He (Jesus) said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you: for My strength is made perfect in weakness.'"

BY WHOM GIVEN?

1. The law was given by Moses, *John 1:17*; *Exodus 20:19*; *Hebrews 12:18-21*.
2. Grace came from Jesus Christ. *John 1:17*, "For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ."

CONCLUSION

Is Christianity a mixed system of law and grace? No, it must be all of faith. *Romans 4:4-5*, "... ⁵ But to him who

He uses our bodies to do good works. The Savior works through us. Our work is to yield. He is the one who performs the works of righteousness. After conversion we do good works because we are saved already, not in order to be saved.

WHAT IS IT?

1. The law includes the Ten Commandments of *Exodus 20:1-17*, and all other commands. *Romans 7:16*, "If, then, I do what I will not to do, I agree with the law that it is good." *Psalms 19:7-8*, " ⁷ The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul... ⁸ the statutes of the Lord are RIGHT... the commandment of the Lord is pure..." Thus we see that the law is holy, just, good, perfect, pure and right.
2. Grace is unmerited favor, the kindness and love of God our Savior toward us. Under law God demands righteousness. Under grace God gives righteousness. *Ephesians 2:8-9*, " ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast."

WHAT DOES IT SAY?

1. The law says, "Obey me and live." *Leviticus 18:5*, "You shall therefore keep My statutes and My judgments,..." which if a man does, he shall live in them.

will find you out.” Proverbs 28:13, “He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy. It is not only the sin that will be discovered but the sinner will be revealed, too. God sees and uncovers hidden sins (Adam, Cain, Achan, Ananias and Sapphira tried to hide things from God but failed to do so).

THE RESULTS OF SIN

1. **Death** - a denotative word signifying separation. Romans 6:23, “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”
2. **Lost** - man is lost to God, and man is lost from heaven. Luke 15:24, “... for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found...”
3. **Condemnation** - this is a judicial word signifying God's judgment. John 3:18, “He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”
4. **Guilt** - an indicative word signifying being conscience stricken. Genesis 26:10, “What is this you have done to us? One of the people might soon have lain with your wife, and you would have brought guilt on us.”

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Romans 10:5, “... The man who does those things (law) shall live by them.” The problem is this: Who can keep the law perfectly? The answer is clear from Romans 3:9-23, that only Christ could fulfill every jot and tittle of the law.

2. Grace says that whosoever hears and believes on Jesus Christ has passed from death into life, John 5:24, a miracle that the law could not perform. Grace offers pardon and peace to sinners through the death of another, the Savior. Grace says that those who receive eternal life will never perish, John 10:28.

WHAT DOES IT DO?

1. Law condemns every individual ever born into this world for all have broken at least one commandment on one occasion. James 2:10, “For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all.” Romans 3:19 makes the whole world guilty before God, “... that every mouth may be stopped, ... and all the world may become guilty before God.” The law sets up a standard, but people are helpless before it. Galatians 3:10, “Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them.”
2. Grace is willing and ready to save the lost, the guilty, the lawbreaker. Grace brings salvation. Titus 2:11, “For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men,”

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payment for sin. To cover the nakedness of Adam and Eve, blood was shed to get the coats of skin, Genesis 3:21. Abel's offering was accepted because it contained blood, and Cain's offering was rejected because it did not have blood, Genesis 4:3-5. Leviticus 17:11, “For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls;...” and Cain's offering was rejected because it did not have blood, Genesis 4:3-5. Leviticus 17:11, “For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls;...”

THE COMPLETENESS OF FORGIVENESS ALL SIN

When Jesus forgives the sin of a person, He forgives them ALL. Luke 7:47, “Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven,...” Psalm 103:3, “Who forgives your iniquities...” Also, Psalm 32:1-2, The Lord forgives the transgression, sin, iniquity-everything, all forgiven. Colossians 2:13, “... having forgiven you all trespasses.” Matthew 12:31, “Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men,...” This is the most important point. If one sin remained un-forgiven that individual could not go to heaven, but would be forced to

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Grace restores righteousness that law took from us through the gift of God. Grace is God's riches at Christ's expense in favor of the guilty sinner. Grace not only saves the sinner, but more grace is added daily to sustain him.

WHAT IT CANNOT DO

1. The law could never justify a guilty sinner. Acts 13:39, “... and by Him everyone who believes is justified from all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses.” The law could not make anything perfect. Hebrews 7:19, “... for the law made nothing perfect;...” To get to heaven the sinner needs to be both justified and made perfect through the blood of Christ and the atoning work of the cross.
2. But grace through faith can bring justification to the sinner. Romans 3:24, “... being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,...” Grace can teach us to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts and to live soberly, righteously and godly in this present world, Titus 2:11-12.

WHY WAS IT GIVEN?

1. The law was given to show us our transgressions. Galatians 3:19, “What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions,...” Without law

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