

Expose 108 K72

Can You Foot The Bill?

Hello world, this is Expose 247 and thanks for joining in. And today will not be exception, we will be going further on our discuss on forgiveness. I will like to draw the attention of our wonderful audience to the last transmission which we tag **Love is not Blind**.

I will like to make this bold assertion that there is no blind love. If anyone think that somebody is blindly in love, it is the person that need to get his eye check. Because it was well played out in Luke Chapter 7. Because it was saying Simon was thinking within himself and said Oh! if this man had known. So Simon assumed that he could see well, he could see better than Jesus. He was saying if he actually was a prophet, because we know prophet is about sight-seeing. So he was like if he actually was a prophet he would had known.

So he assumed he was in a better position. He had a better sight, better vision. So he said if Jesus had known, he would had known that, that woman is a sinner. So he naturally assumed he had a perfect sight. But verse 44 of Luke Chapter 7 surprise me. Because when Jesus was trying to answer and he said

And he turn to the woman, and said unto Simon, seeth thou this woman

So to call his attention of his vision, can you engage your vision in the better way? Can you really see clearly to tell us that, to know that nobody can claim blindness is in love? That if you see anybody thinking that is loving blindly is a reflection of our own poor sight. So the poor sight brings out the poor judgment in which Simon...

And in case you missed that episode, you know where to go. Go to our page to listen to the transmission, **Love is not blind**, so you can understand where we are going today. Would you like to say a word or two about that?

Thank you.

Viewers joining us today on this Expose, specifically Knock Out series. This was the conclusion we came to in the last transmission, that to the degree you are able to see how much depth was paid, to that degree you will be able to love the person who paid the debt. That is what Jesus established in that Luke 7.

And we then came to that conclusion that God's forgiveness can only be appreciated or God's forgiveness can only be understood into the same degree we understand how

much debt that Christ paid. And we said every time you see God's forgiveness, you always see that connection of the shedding of the blood. Every time the shedding of the blood come before forgiveness of sins, we see that in Colossian 1:14, Ephesians 1:7 is to remind you that, that is how much it costs to pay the debt of all of humanity owe God. That is what we see there.

And that is why we simply say there is nothing you can do to earn God's forgiveness. We only saying that because we know how serious and how big the debt is. How indebted we are? Nobody can't afford to pay it, and we are so bankrupt. That is the reason why Jesus in that Luke 7 that you just mentioned from verse 36-50, gave the parable of two men who were forgiven their debt. He said they owe the debt they could not pay. He emphasize that they could not pay. If they could pay the debt, who needs forgiveness? If you could pay the debt, you don't need it.

And that is the reason we always exalt and always make mention the fact that listen, there is nothing you and I can do to earn Gods forgiveness, or to earn God's favour. Nobody can do anything about it. It's too much to pay. All we can do is to say Father, Can you give me grace. And that is what we've been emphasizing on this Knock Out series.

Now, today we are going to emphasize something more. We are going to different dimension of this. Don't forget we came to all these points because of Matthew Chapter 6. Looking at the implication of that prayer in the Lord's prayer where Jesus said, pray that forgive us our sins as we forgive them who trespass against us. We've been examining that particular statement in the light of the New Covenant. To say that you as a believer must rightly divide the Word of truth, so that you can lay hold upon what belongs to you in the Word of God.

And the reason we are going through all these, is not that we are doing what we call academic exercise. That is not our focus. We are not trying to just prove the time with just Bible knowledge. That is not the focus. The goal is to effectively affect the way you respond to God and respond to life. That is the goal. If you notice in the last transmission, Jesus emphasized that because that woman understood she was forgiven much. She was able to love much. Life become different.

So this thing we are discussing is supposed to cause a change in you now, as you understand this. It provokes this woman to react in a way completely different from the way Simon was reacting in Luke 7:36-50. Can you see that? It means there are some things you know that affect the way you live your life the next minutes. And that is the goal on this Knock Out series.

We are trying to evoke something in you by the grace of God, that affect the way you live your life, as soon as this transmission is over, it should affect you straightaway. It did to that woman. She knew something about forgiveness that you and I need to walk in, if we are going to evoke the same reaction and response. That even Jesus had to commend such a response from that woman.

So follow us quickly as we delve further into this particular notion.

I will like to say again that if anybody having a problem with love walk, how to increase your love, just like for you to just go on a journey of appreciation, understanding the forgiveness, the grace of God. And that is how to... So there is no need of plenty sermon on love walk, how do you love and...

You know there is something you just said now, and I think that is something we can emphasize before we go on with today's transmission.

Again, one of the mega (I call it mega not even main) difference between the New and Old Covenant. Is the fact that in the Old Covenant, he will simply say you have to love the Lord your God. You know the ten commandment of Moses that he gave to them from Mount Sinai. The very first commandment was about loving the Lord your God and having making sure that you have no graven image before him. Even the first five commandments was focusing on loving God. The last five were focusing on loving people.

If you please you could divide all the ten into two groups. You don't even need to go there, even there was a time they summarize that all the law is summarize into two, love the Lord you God and love your neighbor. All the ten commandment was about loving God and loving people.

But you see in the Old Testament, under the Old Covenant made of the blood of bulls and goats. We are the one who are meant to act. We are supposed to take initiative to love God. But you see that was mission impossible because of the fall of Adam. Sin entered the world and death came by sin. So all of humanity were just full of selfishness, corruption. And how do you tell a dog, how do you tell a cat to eat herbs? Or tell a carnivorous animal to eat grasses? You are trying to tell the animal which is carnivorous. They don't have the capacity.

So that is how it sounded when God said to people who were under the fallen nature of sin to say love the Lord your God. They can't do it. They don't have what it takes. They are bankrupt spiritually speaking. It's just mission impossible. And that is why when He gave them that law, the purpose was not for them to feel justify, the purpose

was to condemn humanity. That is why every time you want to use the law of God to justify yourself, you are embarking on mission impossible.

You know that man that came to Jesus, that lawyer that Jesus told what does the law says? How do you read it? The man said what you just said about the whole laws say love the Lord your God and love people. Don't forget that he came to Jesus because he said what must do I lack? Jesus said since you know the law, Jesus said what does your law read? The man quoted and summarize the whole law into two. Jesus said since you know, go and do it.

And the Bible said one thing which is what the man try to do which many people are trying to do. The man refuse to leave when Jesus said go and do likewise. The man said who then is my neighbor? And the scriptures said he said that, so that he can justify himself. He had began to embark on mission impossible. He wanted to justify himself with the law. Impossible! That is what people are trying to do.

So we now know that when the commandment was given. It was not actually meant to justify. It was meant to condemn us, so that we can ask for the grace of God. Because he was asking us to act. But what you just said now is this, that in the New Covenant. The whole thing has been changed. What happed in the New Covenant is, we are supposed to love God not as a means of action. It was meant to be a reaction to what God did.

That is why the Bible says about that woman in Luke 7, that she love much because she was forgiven much. So loving for that woman was no more action on her part. It was a response or a reaction to a debt that was paid, that she couldn't paid.

And for you in the New Covenant, that should be the order of your life from now on. That you must start to perceive the love of God. 1John 3:16 "**here is perceive we God's love...** It is all about seeing, perception. All we are called to do in the New Covenant is just to appreciate what was done and God expect that to evoke a reaction. We are not called to act in the New Covenant. We are not called to initiate in the New Covenant. You are not the actor. You are the reactor in the New Covenant.

If you understand this. It's meant to be a game changer in your Christian walk. It means you can't be condemned anymore, that even when you make a mistake, even when things are not walking fine. You simply say thank God, God already acted anyway. Am just called to react.

In the Old Covenant, the onus was on you in the Old Covenant. You've got to act. God was even was the reactor in the Old Covenant. In the New Covenant, God is the actor. You are the responder.

So we saw a woman, who love much not because she had what it takes to love. No! In fact the Bible says herein is love, not that we love God. Can you see? We don't have what it takes. We are just selfish. But He love us first.

I like that word. He put the word **first**. He was emphasizing, he said, He loves us first. That is what he said. Am quoting John now. So all we have to do was to respond. But the Bible gave the benefit of first to God in the New Covenant. This is so serious. He says He love first us not you. He says we don't have what it takes, all we did was just respond to what he did.

And that is our focus on this Knock Out series, to emphasize and to actually enlarge and magnify this part of the New Covenant, so that we can actually come to the point where we can respond. If you are not living the way you should live. If you are not enjoying the victory of Christ in your life. If you are not laying hold upon the benefit of redemption, the only thing we can hold responsible is, are you seeing what God did? Are you perceiving? Are you seeing, appreciating the initiative that God took in Christ Jesus? That is the only problem we have, not seeing, not perceiving, not in a way visualizing and see what has actually happen.

Lastly to round this up, I will just like to say that as God is the initiator, we have it in boundless places in the scripture, he was saying you have not chosen me. Even for what to love, who to love, we did not do the chosen. He chose us first. And then he said herein we perceive the love of God, telling us that is all about perception, is about the vision.

And again he was talking about the woman, you don't feel condemned and judge anymore because Simon was condemning saying she is a sinner. And then in this, she was not condemned anymore because of this she had been justify.

So come with us again as we go on.

So that is why you see us always trying to clarify, explain because we are trying to show so that we can see. That is the goal.

Now, follow us quickly as go to Luke Chapter 5, from verse 18 to verse 25. Again we are trying to delve more into this notion of forgiveness, so that you can see, so that we can see, so that we can respond when we see correctly.

Luke 5 verse 18, you can read please,

Luke 5

18. And behold men brought in a bed a man which was taken with a palsy: and they sought means to bring him in, and to lay him before him.

I think before you read that, can you start from verse 17.

What does it say please?

17. And it came to pass on a certain day, as he was teaching that there were Pharisees and doctors of the Law sitting by which were come out of every town of Galilee, and Judea and Jerusalem and the power of the Lord was present to heal them.

Please take note of that. The power of the Lord was present to heal.

Let me say this to you today by the Word of God, that in the New Covenant, in the blood of Jesus. The power of God, the favor of God, the hand of God, the presence of God is right here on this planet. Have you noticed in Acts Chapter 2 when the Bible says the tongues of fire came from heaven and came upon each of them. Have you noticed, Bible never said it went back up to heaven.

The power of the Lord, the presence of God is right on the planet earth. So that means that is why the Bible says there is nothing you can do to say who will go and bring Christ from the heaven, or raise him up from the death. He said the word is near you in your mouth, the word of faith which we speak. The Lord is present at all time with you. He's present with you. It's one thing that he is present, it's a whole different thing that things are happening in your life. And you can see the connection in this particular thing we are reading through.

Just understand the fact that even though God's power present nothing was happening. Can you see?

Go on please,

and the power of the Lord was present to heal them.

18. And behold men brought in a bed a man which was taken with a palsy: and they sought means to bring him in, and to lay him before him.

19. And when they could not find by what way they might bring him in because of the multitude, they went upon the housetop, and let him down through the tiling with his couch into the midst before Jesus.

20. And when he saw their faith, he said unto him, man thy sins are forgiven thee.

21. And the scribes and the Pharisee began to reason, saying, who is this which speaketh blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but Godalone?

Now, let's have a kind of discuss on this and bring out what the Lord wants us to understand in this context.

The first thing you see there is, the Bible says those men did some things. They engage in some activities specifically and the activities were documented. What they did to get the man down to where Jesus was. But one thing that statement say is Jesus saw their faith.

Now, you see faith is no more something that is vague. Faith is not something that you could say well, am sure do I have faith or not? Some people said how do I know I have faith? or maybe something has happen to you in the past and somebody said to you, the reason why you didn't have your prayers answered is because you don't have enough faith. Atimes when people say that, you might be offended or you might think they don't even know that you actually have enough faith. How do you know that you have faith? Well, faith can be seen.

Can you see? Jesus saw their faith. You couldn't say you are not sure whether you have faith or not. I will invite you to look for our previous series on faith and unbelief, where we specifically gave the specifics on how do you know if you have faith? If you have faith, it will result in specific activities consistent with the fact that you do have faith. That is what we are talking about.

So faith goes with actions. People always talk about putting your money where you mouth is. When you have faith, I will see some actions. I will see how you respond to life. I will see what you say, and how you reason. All these are evidences that actually show whether you do have faith as you claim, and that is what we see there.

Jesus saw the things that they did. The thing that they did were not even spiritual things as it were. They just put their money where their mouth is. They believe Jesus could heal and they made movement. They actually had to open the roof... just put the sick man down and all that. They did all that specifically because they know Christ could heal.

So for you and I, if we believe the Word. If we read the Word for example, the Bible says by the stripes of Jesus, you were healed. If you know that, and you claim you have faith in 1Peter 2:24 where that was written. If you claim you have faith. Then that faith can be seen. You know why? You will not preparing for burial. You will not be getting ready for death. You will not be making allowance for sickness. Things you will say and do will actually show evidence that you have faith.

Faith can be seen. If you believe that the Bible says that your needs are supplied and meant in Christ Jesus. He says God supply all your needs according to his riches in Christ Jesus, if you believe that your faith should be seen. How? By you going out there and not allowing anyone to describe who you are by the money in your bank account.

You can say I know the grace of our Lord Jesus that even though he was rich yet for his sake, I became rich so that for our sake Christ became poor, so that we through the poverty of Christ might be made rich. Made rich on every side, spiritually on every side. You have all that you need for life and godliness. If you believe that, it will show in the way you talk, in the way you act, in the way you react to life. Faith can be seen. That is what we see there.

Yes, may I remind our audience that even beyond... this is not a solo event or something that should be taken in isolation. All through the life and ministry of Jesus, we have instances where we have recorded that, and Jesus saw her faith, Jesus saw that he has this, and Jesus saw that he had the faith to be healed. You know that is all the place.

So you cannot afford not to give a visible manifestation to the faith that you claim to possess inside. It must really be seen. You must wear it on your sleeve that people can see. Even in the way you live, in terms of your character, your behavior and your actions.

Think about it. If the Bible says in 2Corinthians 5 that he that knew no sin was made sin for you. Watch this! so that you can become the righteousness of God in Christ. It means even now, are you the son of God? Now, are you God's righteousness now as we are talking? If you then do anything, say anything or act anyway that you know is not consistent with a good character that a Christian should exhibit. You know what? What do you say?

Now, what you say next or what you do next determines if you have faith in that verse I quoted. You can simply say well, Father that which I did was wrong. That which I did is not something that a child of God should do, but I believe and I know am God's righteousness in Christ Jesus. It means I know this is not consistent with who I am. Can you see? this is who I am. You need to reaffirm who you are.

What you say and what you do, and how you think after determine if you have faith in that word. Faith can be seen. Some people, what they do or say after the wrong thing tells us that they don't have faith in that 2Corinthians 5. They don't have faith in it.

So what we are simply saying on this transmission is if you believe the Word of God and you claim to have faith in what God says is about your life. What you say and what you do and how you think, they are enough evidence to show whether you have faith or not. So you can't even lie about faith. That is what we are talking about.

So the actions will be corresponding. So it will be in consistent. It is in the understanding of having faith that you are the righteousness of God is the one that will make you to even go out, and make even corresponding action that is consistent with somebody who have the faith, who have the understanding that he is the righteousness of God.

And when things go wrong, you can simply say that is not who I am, because I have faith. And reaffirm yourself and bring yourself back in line. So the way you respond to life is enough evidence to show if you have faith or not. Because we don't want people to just be going empty and say they only care about what they are doing and just saying confession... this is beyond confession am just the righteousness of God ,so I can be doing anyhow. That is not it.

It's just about you understanding that, re-affirming who you are and bringing your life in consistent, giving corresponding action to what you actually believe in into it. And should you go wrong, or you miss it at a point, you re-affirm it and you walk consistently. This is who I am, so I cannot be this. And you bring yourself, when you come to your consciousness, you will have the corresponding action to back that up.

In fact, from you just said. The scriptures says in the book of Proverbs, as a man think in his heart, so is he. You will end behaving, thinking, acting like the way you think about yourself. So we need to drive a consciousness of God's righteousness into people's mind and heart, so that they will be like that. Definitely!

So if we are driving the sin consciousness and people begin to see that they are talking only about their fallen nature, they are talking about the humanity side of them, they are not talking about divinity. They will end up going that way of their talk. People end up behaving and acting in the direction of their greatest thought. That is it.

So faith can be seen. Faith can be touched. That is what we see.

So we are filling the air spaces with the consciousness of the righteousness of who we are in Christ. So that we can be who God calls us or what God calls us and that is what we see.

So in this case, Jesus saw their faith. Faith can be seen. That is the word. He saw their faith.

Now, if you look verse 18,

18. And behold men brought in a bed a man which was taken with a palsy: and they sought means to bring him in, and to lay him before him.

19. And when they could not find by what way they might bring him in because of the multitude, they went upon the housetop, and let him down through the tiling with his couch into the midst before Jesus.

That is their faith making motion, making movement, because they believe there is a power present to heal. That is the point. If you believe it will show in your actions. Can you see that?

and let him down through the tiling with his couch into the midst before Jesus

Can you see?

20. And when he saw their faith, he said unto him, man thy sins are forgiven thee.

Now let's look at this together. If you offend someone, if you do something wrong against maybe a friend, and you know what you did was wrong. If I come to you and I tell you that I have forgiven you. You will think am crazy. You will think I don't know what am talking about. Because you think you offended somebody. And I was the one that said I forgave you for offending somebody. You think that doesn't make any sense.

Because if you offend someone, you expect the person that you offended to be the person to say well, I forgive you for offending me. You don't expect me who is not even a party to the offense to come to you and say I have forgiven you. This doesn't make sense in the natural sense.

I will take it slowly. If you offend Mr A and Mr B then came to you and tells you, if I forgive you, that will not make any sense to you. Because the person you offended was Mr. A. And you will think the only person who has the right to forgive you was Mr. A that you offended. It wouldn't make any sense if Mr. B then came to tell you I forgive you. You will not take that forgiveness serious. That is the way it works. That is just common sense.

Now, if that's the case, why would Jesus be the person to tell this man that son your sins are forgiven.

Now, this raises a big question. Is Jesus claiming that this man offended him because if this man did not offend Jesus, if this man didn't owe Jesus a debt, if this man did

not in any way be the person who is indebted to Christ, then Christ doesn't have no right or no jurisdiction to tell the man your sins are forgiven.

Then the question we are asking is, for Christ to have said to the man your sins are forgiven, then we can come to a safe conclusion that to Jesus, this man owe Jesus a debt, that only Christ have the legal right (whether he knew about it or not is not the point) but Jesus could see that this man hold him a debt. If not it was pointless for Christ to be the one forgiven somebody a debt that the person didn't owe Christ.

Now, the reason why we are pointing this out to you today, is to understand one thing about humanity. If you please I might ask you, please check through our page for one of our titles, when did our prodigal father series. We titled **Jesus redefined Sin**.

Now, we have a very strange notion of sin, and that is why most time we don't appreciate the degree of forgiveness of God. Unless you understand the depth of sin, you wouldn't be able to see and appreciate the forgiveness grace that is in Christ Jesus. And that is what we are using this particular verse today or verses to bring this out. Why did Jesus see that this man owe him a debt? This is the reason. This man had never meant Jesus. This man we can safely assumed he had never even heard about Jesus before. It make sense to think so.

So where did the debt come from? This is where it came from. We had to trace all this way back to Adam.

You see when Adam sinned against God, I know most of us think about the fact that the scriptures talk about God say to them, don't eat of the tree in the midst of the garden, you can eat of everything. Most of us tend to be fixated on the fruit that we forgot the whole point. The whole point was Adam and Eve trying to say that we could be independent of God in the way we live our lives.

Don't forget that when God created man, He said let us made man in our image. Let us create man in our likeness. The goal was this. God is God by himself. God did not need mankind. Before there was ever man, Bible says in the beginning God. So in the beginning there was God, even when there was no man. And God will still be God when there is no man.

So God did not need mankind. God wanted us. He wanted a family. He says let us make man in our image. God wanted people he could share his image with. Can you see? Let us make man in our image. God wanted people to carry his likeness. God wanted a family.

And by the time Adam and Eve got the lie of the devil and says well, you can know good and evil, you wouldn't need God. You can become like God. You don't need him to actually understand what good and evil is. You can run things by yourself. That was the greatest blow on what God actually wanted with mankind. He wanted a family. That is why the Apostle Paul said in the epistles, I bow my knee before God, the Father of whom the family in heaven and earth carry his name. He wanted people to carry his name. He wanted people to carry his image. This was the goal.

So the greatest evil that mankind committed against God through Adam was to say, we can become like God, who need God? And that is why when we did the prodigal father series. We said when the youngest son went to the father, and said father give me the portion that fall unto me. I want to go out and run things by myself... That is sin, running things by yourself independence of God.

You can become your own god. You don't need to submit. You don't need to receive the grace of God. You don't need to receive the life of God. You don't need to receive revelation knowledge from God to know between evil and good. This is the real sin in the garden. It wasn't about the fruit. It wasn't about the tree. This was the real sin in the garden. That is why when Jesus presented the parable in Luke 15 of the two sons, he redefine what sin is all about to give us a true picture of sin.

So back to this point. That is why if you notice, Isaiah Chapter 53. There is one thing he says. He says all we as sheep have gone astray. Why the word gone astray? Gone astray means we've just walk away from the family. Have you notice in Isaiah 53, he didn't say all of we have committed atrocities. He didn't say all of we have committed evil acts. He said all of we have gone astray. Each one of us have just walk away from the Father, who is the head of the family. Everybody walked away in Adam. Can you see?

That is the reason why like a sheep walking away from the shepherd. This is how God see sin. God see sin beyond the fact that somebody lie. Lying is a sin, stealing is a sin. Immorality is a sin. Can you see? All these things are sin, but there is a sin behind the sin. I will say that slowly.

All these things are all sins. All these activities are sins, we are not belittling them. We are simply saying we will be short-sighted or myopic if you then reduce sin just to lying and stealing and all these things. There is a sin or there is a bigger sin behind those activities and the bigger sin is somebody to say, I think I be my own god. I can run things by myself. That is why the devil presented this to them in the garden. That is the sin behind sin.

Even every righteous act that is born out of running things by yourself and say you don't need the grace, some people are saying we are moralist. I know how to talk well. And so people go to places where they learn anger management, that does not have any recourse to the cross. That does not take you to the cross. Everybody learn how to do this and said we don't need God, we can do well by ourselves. We can solve conflict, we can live peaceably between ourselves and nations. That is the sin. That is the reason why Jesus said my peace, I leave with you not the way the world give peace.

Now, do you know one thing? This might be something you got to think about that even If you are born again, even if you are a Christian listening to this. And I ask you a question, why do you think God should bless you? or why do you think you deserve God's favour? How you answer that questions tells me how you think. And the way you think determines how you are able to respond to what God did in Christ Jesus.

If I asked you why should God bless you? Why should God favour you? And if you tell me, that you look back and say I think ever since I gave my life to Christ, I think I have tried to make sure I live right as much as I can. If that is your response, it means you have not gotten the gospel. It means you understand the gospel.

If you think I have tried as much as I can and I think in a way I try to make sure that I don't do things that offend God, and I think as a result I should be on the radar of God's favor. If that is what you think, you don't understand the gospel of the Lord Jesus.

So our problem is not in what we do in terms of activities of sin, our problem is how we derive our sense of identity to live life. If all you say is, even though I think I have done the right things ever since I gave my life to Christ, but ultimately I know that the debt I owe is too much, that all those things cannot even pay for them. I just have to know the fact that only Christ paid for that debt through his blood and I come to the Father every time only in the name of Jesus. Not in my name, not in what I do or don't do. If that is what you say, that is the true gospel of the Lord Jesus.

So you have to understand this was the bottom line of sin in the garden. It wasn't about the activity. It was about the mentality that the devil drove into them. Yes to buttress the point, am still taking the people back to the Garden of Eden. To let you know what was more important to God was who told you? It's not even about the information. It wasn't like He was really pissed off about the information. Who told you? Where did you gain this knowledge from? Who usurp my place? Who told you?

The question is are you righteous? You say yes. Who told you, you are righteous? That is the next thing. Who told you?

So if you feel your worth, the way I do was the one informing you... Are you holy? And if you say yes. There is no problem with the fact that you are holy but who told you, you are holy? Are you blessed financially? Do you have money? or do you have resources? Do you have what it takes to perform or fulfill the vision that God has given you? If you tell me yes. My question is who told you that you have?

Is it your bank account that told you, you can fulfill that vision? or is it the people around you that told you that? or is the title and things? If you think that is the reason why you think you can actualize God's vision. That is not the gospel. Can you see? The gospel has come all the way down to who told that God asked Adam in the garden.

And that is what we are emphasizing today. That the sin behind the sin or the real sin underlining every other sinful activity is this, who told you of a thing? And that is why can boldly say that Jesus had the right to tell this man your sins are forgiven because He was in the Father that in the garden (Am talking about Christ Jesus). Because the Bible says in the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God.

So Christ was there right there when Adam and Eve were simply saying we think, we can become as god to ourselves, to know how to derive our own sense of identity. That is why all of us as sheep have gone astray, and all of us have gone his own way. We have all departed from the Father. And that is why in the gospel. What we do is, come back to the Father through Christ Jesus. That is why the Father has to forgive us that debt.

See, we have not even talk about specific sinful activities. We are talking about there is something bigger than that. And that is what we are focusing on today. Who told you that you are righteous? is it some performance or adherence of some teaching that told you that you are righteous? or you not putting this on, you not wearing that, you not eating this, you not drinking that, you not doing that. Are those the things that inform your sense of righteousness? It means you are back in the Garden of Eden. That is a sin. Can you see? That is a sin in itself, irrespective of what you are doing. It doesn't matter...the specific activities are important but much more importantly is what inform your sense of identity?

Even in the court of law, if you missed a point on that. Though you get the tick on what you do, but the bigger one, who told you, from the source of this is not credible, is not accepted. That is the point.

That is what we see. That is the reason why Jesus had to come to this man and said I forgive you your sins.

Just like in an examination and somebody wrote the writings and he cheated. He used a different source to get those information. You got the right thing. You answered the question correctly but the source... that is the thing. So some people are doing and asking questions rightly now, but the source is already corrupted. So it's just a futile effort. That is the reason why all of humanity has gone astray. That is the reason why everyone need God's forgiveness. Can you see why we need God's forgiveness? Even whether we realize it or not.

Well, this man didn't realize anything. This man didn't even asked Jesus to say forgive me. That is the reason why... again we emphasize what we said in the last transmission that God's forgiveness to us, has got nothing to do with... some people even think that it depends how serious your repentance was, or it depends on how God need to see that you are really sorry for God to offer you forgiveness.

Well, we don't see that in the scriptures in the New Covenant. If what I just said offend you, please check the Bible quickly in the New Covenant. In the New Covenant, forgiveness was offered by the shedding of the blood of Jesus. I understand. We are still going to come to this, please hold on. The receiving of forgiveness is what is affected by our own disposition. That is a different ball game. But your disposition does not in any way now make God says because Mr. A or Mr. B is so repentant, I will forgive you. That is why we have people today in the church, who are Christians, who are still feeling guilty of the past sins they've committed.

The reason why that is happening even though they say Father I have repented, I don't know what is happening to me. Maybe what is happening to me is because of the past sins I have committed. The reason why such mentality is rampant is because people don't understand God's forgiveness. They thought that God's forgiveness was contingent on how serious they repented. God's forgiveness is not contingent on your seriousness of repentance.

Your repentance only make you receive what God has made available. Forgiveness is available now. You don't need to beg God for it. You don't need to cry and be sorrowful for it. When you are crying and repenting, you are only receiving God's forgiveness.

So we saw a man here that was not even crying, he was not even begging. In fact, what he wanted was a healing and Jesus said well, this Mr. man I will offer you this first. So please understand that forgiveness is God's offer.

That is why we saw in Colossians 1:14, Ephesians 1:7, we read Acts 26:18 as well. All these scriptures that we read, please check our title that says **Forgiveness: understanding the shift.**

We read so many scriptures in that transmission and all we saw there, the Bible keep on saying redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sin. He didn't even call us into it and said, he didn't say redemption through his blood, your degree of repentance, the forgiveness of sin. He didn't say that. That is what you need to know there.

So we understand the reason why Jesus knew this man owe him a debt. He owe Christ a debt and that is why only Christ has the right to forgive him. And don't forget like we said in the Garden of Eden, we know when man was created, the Bible says in the beginning, Elohim, God said let us make man in our image.

If you have the Hebrew, he says Elohim is not just for one. He says let us. So the question is who was God talking to? We know the Father was talking to the Word and all that. They were there. That is why Jesus was right there when Adam and Eve actually disconnected from God.

And that is why he spoke to this man, you sins are forgiven. Because they owe Christ. This man owe Christ Jesus. So that is what we see. That is why Christ has the right to forgive him. You don't forgive somebody unless they actually offended you specifically.

I think it is right we are having this kind of conversation today because this has always generated controversy because the next verse was talking about that.

Verse 21,

21. And the scribes and the Pharisee began to reason, saying, who is this which speaketh blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?

It has always generate this controversy.

You know what? They were right. Only God can forgive sins. But here was God in the flesh. The Bible says the Word dwells among us. And we behold him... Can you see? as of the glory of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1)

The Word became flesh. So we know the Word that was with God in the beginning and the Word that was God in the beginning became flesh in Christ Jesus.

So they were right. Only God can forgive sins. But this was God in the flesh walking in the midst of them. Can you see that?

So they were right in that sense to say who can forgive sins but God. But unknowingly to them, in the blindness of their mind, they couldn't see this was God in the flesh walking among them.

Yes, another take on this is that even the Pharisee were in a better position than most Christians today, because they actually understand and accepted that it is only God that can forgive sin. But some people are living their life as if they can forgive themselves. They feel like they can pay back for those credits. And so they feel like they can forgive themselves. They are good enough. They have what it takes, or by virtue of what they will be doing further, they will pay back the debt. They know they got it on credit. But they know they will do enough. They know how to settle the debt. So they know they can forgive themselves. They go on a mission every day and to prove it that they can forgive themselves. But this Pharisee even know better, they say is only God that can forgive sin.

Thank you for that.

And let's say this before we continue with looking at this man, not just this man as it were, but we are trying to understand some things about God's forgiveness using this situation of this man as mirror to see that. You see, when Jesus came to him and they said who has the power to forgive sins but God alone.

Now, you see even though we talked about this in previous episode, but I think this a good time to emphasize this quickly, that every time you talk about sin. **Sin is both vertical and horizontal.**

Now, the vertical thing about sin is the fact that, Bible says all we as sheep has gone astray, each one to his own way. So we have an issue with God in that regard because independence from God in the way life is started with Adam and Eve and that run down all through humanity. The Bible says sin entered by one man and it came on all men. So there is a vertical part of sin. That is the debt that we owe God that we have to pay.

Now, horizontally speaking as it were, we have the issue of sin where when we commit any of activity of sins, it affect us spirit, soul and body. And it affects people around us. So we are at that horizontal level. But there is a good news. The good news

is 2Corinthians 5. He says God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself. It means God forgave the world. God sorted out the account with the world. But he say not imputing, not counting their sins anymore.

Let's say this before Christ came, God was counting the sins of men against them. That is why Jesus had to tell this man your sins were forgiven. Because God was counting. So this man's problem is not the fact that... I don't know if the man did anything wrong that made sin affect his own body, and I don't claim to know whether there is something that he did, or something that he engage in.

We know people today who do and say things that affect them even their own spirit, soul and body, even without God being involved. Sin affects life. Sin affects relationship. You see people do things and say things that damages relationship even in families, relatives, sin affects your communication with people. Sin damage society. So we know the devastating effect of sin. But that is just merely horizontal. But there is a vertical problem of sin.

So the Bible says vertically speaking, God was counting sins against men up until Christ. That is why 2Corinthians 5 says God was in Christ... when Christ had not show up. This didn't happen. So before Christ, God was counting the sin of men against them. That is why Jesus had the right to tell this man well, for the one that was counted against you before, I forgive you. That is why he told this man, because he was counting sin against men. Bible says God was in Christ.

Now, when Christ came this was a big switch.

God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself.

Have you noticed he didn't say reconciling Christians to himself. Because I know people thinks he says... he didn't say reconciling those who are born again to himself. He was reconciling the world. Born again not born again, sinners, unrighteous... everybody has access to this package. God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, not imputing, not counting their sins against them anymore.

Do you know why? Because God counted the sin against his Son. That is why the Bible says by the shedding of blood, when Christ said my Father, my Father why have you forsaken me? At that point, God counted the sins of the world against Christ. That is why the Bible says that behold the Lamb of God that took away the sins... so God already had an object for his wrath, his anger. He counted it against his Son Jesus. That is why we know that God already offered forgiveness.

Forgiveness is no more an action that God will perform when you repent. I will say that slowly. Forgiveness is no more an action that God will perform when you do something. Forgiveness was performed because the Bible says God reconciled the world to himself through Christ Jesus. That is why we are simply saying today that forgiveness was already offered.

I know many people are not picking it up. I know many people are not receiving it, and they are not saved yet. But that doesn't change the fact that God already offered forgiveness. That is the reason why we emphasize again that, Jesus had the right to tell this man your sins are forgiven because God was counting sins against him before.

But, for you and I in the New Covenant, God is no more counting our sins against us. It doesn't mean that sin will still not devastate you and devastate your family, and devastate your body, spirit, soul if you engage in sin. That doesn't change the fact that it will devastate you. But on God's side, God said I have settled my account with you. And that is what we see there.

Yes, all these prophets of Old they even gave credence to this point because we show instances and instances where God was counting the sins. Some people that don't even understand what it is and the nature of God, so with this understanding they will be able to appreciate that it was Jesus that made God to stop counting the sins. It was the death of Jesus, that is the sacrifice of Jesus that made the counting to stop.

We would have been feeling the same kind of experience as God was counting it against David, counting it against this, house of Jeroboam and all those counting that has been. We would have been having this same expression. So it is not that God change, but the thing that change the system was Christ's sacrifice in which there was something who was counted for.

And that all we as sheep as gone astray and **God** has **laid** upon **him** the iniquity of us all. All the counts was on him.

Do you know I like one thing that you said? And I think this is one of the question people raise and said well, people present two types of God. He said well, why are you presenting a God of the Old Testament and a God of the New Testament? Please there are no two Gods. Bible says there is only one God, one Father of all. There are no two God.

All we are simply saying is at the cross, the justice of God, met the mercy of God. They kiss each other at the cross. It means God will be unjust to just tell you I forgiven you your sins. That is why if you check our previous transmission, the last one before this, where we talk about that **love is not blind**. We stated that forgiveness

cannot just be free. If you damage somebody's goods or you owe somebody a debt. If somebody tells you I forgive you when you owe them a debt. They are going to replace that money somehow, somehow. Somebody has to pay. Forgiveness goes with a cost.

So if God then want to forgive humanity. It wouldn't make any sense for God to say I forgive you. And the question is going to arise, who is going to pay for the iniquity? Who is going to pay? Because the wages of sin is death. How can God say I forgive you? Who is going to pay? That is the question.

So we knew when we saw the payment at the cross, then we are sure God will forgive. And if God says He forgave us and we don't see any payment, I will doubt it. I will be in doubt maybe He deceived us. I will be in doubt of his justice. I will be in doubt whether He actually forgave us. Because I will say if you forgive me, then who pays? Who suffer the debt?

That is why if you notice, anytime he talks about forgiveness, there is always about debt. If you check Luke 7:36-50. He was talking about people owing debt they could not pay and he was talking about forgiveness. Even in Matthew Chapter 6 that led us into all these. There was a debt to pay.

So when we saw the shedding of the blood, so we knew the debt was paid. So we were sure that the forgiveness has been given. And we are not in doubt about that. Because so many people have been crucified on the cross, but he said that particularly about the Son, about the crucifixion of Jesus, He counted it on him. All the sin was laid on him.

So if you see somebody because there was so many that was crucify with Jesus that day on the cross. So it was on the Son that He laid it on him. Not on those thieves on the left and right.

Thank you for making that reference.

Do you know why every other debt from all time and eternity would never count as the debt of Jesus? This is the reason. You've got to understand the fact that only Christ was the one that live a life that was completely in agreement with the demands of God's law. In such a way that all He deserves was the life and favour from the Father.

I repeat that slowly. Every other person on the planet before and after Jesus could not make the same claim because the Bible says, he that knew no sin was made sin for us. Let me repeat that. It will only take he that knew no sin to be made sin. To fit in into

that arrangement. You know... this is the high priest that fit us. You don't just take any high priest. You need the high priest that fit your needs.

You know the place in the Old Testament where God instructed them that if you are going to come to sacrifice sin under the Law of Moses, you must get a lamb without a blemish. If your lamb has a blemish it doesn't fit you. Even in the Old Testament, you must get a lamb that is perfect. No blemish, no spot, nothing must be on your lamb. If the lamb has anything wrong with them, it could not be accepted.

Because if you are going to have an exchange. Because when you do the exchange, it means you are saying to God, (In the Old Covenant) that let the lamb take all your sins and its consequences. And you want to take on the righteousness or the purity or the none-blemish upon the lamb, you want to take it upon yourself. So you've got to find a lamb that is perfect. If the lamb is not perfect, is not going to work.

And this is the reason why we know only Jesus fitted that description. Nobody else who died on the cross or died in anyway of all history would have fitted the description because why? The Bible says only him was the one that knew no sin.

Even we have record that says that, even the prince of this world came and could not find anything. Nothing! Nothing in him. The accuser of the brethren came, the one that his chief job description is accusation. The one that find faults, he came. You know is not just anybody that came. It's just like the person that is in the department. The chief of accusation came and find nothing. In all these things, sometimes they say in all these things, he did not commit sins. He was sinless. So we have all these record of it.

And again there is proof that he was the only one that fit the bill. Is just like who can pay it? Who has the resources to pay? Jesus was the only that was resurrected by the power of God. No other people, they died like that and was not brought out. The power of resurrection that brought him is a proof of who fit the bill. The one that fit the bill is the only one that can foot the bill, who has the capacity.

This is the high priest that fit us. That is why he can only be the one that can transfer his righteousness to us because, he is taken the consequences of our sins. It takes a lamb without blemish to qualify for that. That is why only him qualify. And that is it. So that is what we see right her. That is why he had the right your sins are forgiven.

And again is a way to humble us for anybody who feel he can forgive himself with all the actions and everything to humble us that there is nothing you can do about this. It is already too late. You are incapacitated to even forgive yourself anymore.

So anybody working out and feel like they are going to prove it but they are going to pay the credit. Some people have actually accepted it was credit as that. But they got this on credit, and they feel like no, they are going to work themselves, because they feel they have integrity. And they feel like they are on a journey and they are going to walk themselves to it.

That is why the reason we are doing this transmission today.... The reason some people come with that kind of notion and mentality is because they don't know how much debt they owe. Is when you think you don't owe that much is you think you can come up with something to solve your problem.

Apart from that, they are not even qualify. Because you just have to be sinless to pay the debt. So already you have to accept you are not even qualify. You must be in credit to pay the debt. So you can't be in debt and you still want to pay the debt.

You must not even have any spot at all, is not even about the degree of the sin. You might be right to say some of them don't know the degree of the debt, that is why they feel they can do something about it.

But the thing is you are not meant to have any spot at all. In the first place, whatever they can do or not, whether degree even if it was small, if there debt was small, they are disqualify.

That is why I said they are not in credit at all. It is a debt already. The spot has disqualify them. So they need somebody who fit the bill to foot the bill.

You know sometime we see in the court of law, when they need to somebody to stand in for something. They give the credentials of this. You must have this. You know some people they even have the money. They might tell you for this bail, this person must have this kind of money in their account and they name an account and they said the person must be a top officer or something.

You now see some people do not even qualify. They have the money. They have every other thing maybe because they are not top officer. They don't have the land or something though they have the other thing.

So if you come and say you want to forgive ourselves and you fell like oh! I already even have the resources to forgive myself. But yet you are not qualify because you are not in that standing to do it. So it's to humble us in our walk and feel like we just have to accept this. You know is good for us to accept and know that there is nothing we can do about this and accept the arrangement of God.

Now, follow us quickly as go to the next verse 22.

What does he says there?

22. But when Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answering said unto them, what reason ye in your hearts?

Now watch verse 23.

23. Whether is easier, to say thy sins be forgiven thee or to say rise up and walk?

Now, you see the next verse we are going into is actually the climax of this particular verse that we are looking at. That is the climax.

As we said, we are trusting the Lord that as you come to this understanding, it will liberate and release you into the glorious liberty of the sons and daughters of God. And that is why we are doing this Exposé.

Now, it means you cannot be at a point anymore where you are thinking am I sure whether God is on my side anymore or not? Am I sure whether God has forgiven me? You could even doubt anymore. Because if the payment had been paid, you can be sure the forgiveness has been given. And that is what we actually come into by looking at all these verses.

And if you think what we are seeing today is unnecessary. You can see it was generating controversy, the Pharisee were thinking... it has always been an age long controversy about this thing, who's forgiving? Who should be?

So whatever you are thinking in your heart about these things or whatsoever position you are holding who forgives sins, how do you forgive sin about this? You are not alone... even the Pharisee were thinking about all these things. So we not even condemned for even thinking or having any position on any of this or how you think about this. But the thing is like, we are just going to submit ourselves to the authority of the scriptures in this.

Jesus knew that they were thinking this, this was generating this. Even the one that they said, and the one they were thinking in their heart. So whichever position you have held on this issue of sin and the forgiveness, of going about it or even of forgiven yourself or whichever position or whatever your thought. We are going to resolve every thought with the scriptures on this matter.

So we will like you to join us on our next transmission as we continue and I believe you will really want to hear the conclusion of this matter. You don't want to hear it half-way.

And in case you are joining us first time, you just see part of this. You know the Word is precept upon precept, line upon line, a little here, a little there. So you need to go and get the little there. The one's we've been sharing before and begin to join it. There is another precept that is coming with the next transmission.

So you need to join them and link them together. Because you cannot just hear half-truth. Because is a danger like somebody said danger of one side of the story. So you cannot just run off with it, you need to understand where we are coming from and follow us to where we are going.

So am very sure that... you can even see that we need to get to the conclusion of this matter. I believe you will join us next transmission.

Please share this and invite others to join us on this transmission again, so that they can even hear this. And then should you have any questions, any comments or any clarification on it. And we want to say maybe hold on till you hear it, or you might leave the comments so we can understand where you are going and so we will be able to physically address that as the Lord permits.

As we close now, don't forget that this is where this discussion is supposed to actually resurrect the God kind of faith in your spirit man. If you look at the last verse we read in our last transmission, Luke 7:36-50. Jesus said to that woman, your faith has actually saved thee.

But don't forget, it was actually a discuss on forgiveness. Can you see? It means the reason why lots of faith has been hamper, the reason why some faith have been emaciated is because of this lack of understanding of God's forgiveness. It's supposed to resurrect the God kind of faith in your spirit man, if you understand it. And that is what we believe is happening to you right now, as you are watching this episode we are doing on forgiveness.

In other words, the understanding of forgiveness is central to so many things. Even if you are saying you are a faith person, you need to understand forgiveness. Even if you are saying you are for healing, you need to understand forgiveness. If you are talking about salvation, and your only concern and say your faith saved thee. Because she knew she was forgiven much because of the way she understood it.

So you need the understanding of the forgiveness as the bedrock. It cut across whichever position and everything you have identify with. And some cannot say I have outgrown this knowledge and understanding, that this is for baby Christians, about forgiveness. You know we are talking about faith. You need the understanding.

So till we see you next transmission, we want to say as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him.

God bless you.

Bye!!