

Blessing of Forgiveness
Romans 4
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show what we can learn about forgiveness from Romans 4.

- Intro:
1. When one considers the facts about forgiveness the question must be asked, why do so many delay? (**Acts 22:16**)
 2. Tonight we'll look at some importance facts regarding forgiveness.

I. Before Forgiveness

A. Condemnation (**Rom 3:23-24**)

1. Condemnation is the opposite of justification.
2. Unforgiven sinful individuals will be eternally condemned to face the wrath of God (**Rom 2:4-10**).

B. Bondage & being alienated from God

1. Set free from sin comes from obedience (**Rom 6:17-18**)
2. The condemned are alienated from God (**Rom 5:8-10**)

II. Blessings in Forgiveness

A. Life (**Rom 6:1-4**)

1. Man cannot live by bread alone (**Mt 4:4**)
2. Christians the hope of eternal life (**Titus 1:2**).

B. Hope (**Rom 8:24**)

1. Hope is expectation
2. God's people have a hope "laid up in heaven" (**1 Pt 1:3-5**)

C. Peace (**Rom 5:1**)

1. Peace does not come from the sinful actions which man is tempted with by the world.
2. True peace comes through the pardon and forgiveness of sin.

D. Joy (**Rom 5:2**)

1. There is a happiness that comes with salvation (**Acts 8:39**)
2. David wanted the "joy of salvation" restored (**Ps 51:12**).

III. Lessons for Us Today

A. No forgiveness means no security.

1. There is no delivery from darkness without forgiveness (**Acts 26:18**)
2. Without forgiveness man is separated from God (**Isa 59:1-2**)

B. With forgiveness comes the ability to be a blessing to others.

1. The forgiven person begins to be the right kind of influence on others.
 - a. Family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers
2. The forgiven person seeks to lead others to forgiveness (**Mt 28:18-20**).

Application & Conclusion:

1. Forgiveness is only obtained through the blood of Christ (**Col 1:14, Eph 1:7**)
2. Covering sins cannot be accomplished by denying guilt, compensating with good works or trying to hide the reality of sins.
3. The real covering for sin is by God's grace and the blood of Christ.
4. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11-12, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent & Pray: James 5:16, 1 John 1:9