

GOD HAS A BIG ERASER

By Keith Greer

"For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more." {Hebrews 8:12}

One of the things that most people desire in life is a second chance with a clean slate. We long for the opportunity to put the past in the past and start fresh. God offers that very thing. He has no black book, carries no grudges, assigns no probation, and does not forgive conditionally. God not only forgives our past transgressions; He also forgets them. Consider the following...

His love for sinners. "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." {Romans 5:8} Understand that God hates sin because it's a transgression of His will, 1 John 3:4. Who was offered the first opportunity for salvation by the preaching of the gospel of Christ? On the Day of Pentecost the very ones who not many days before had crucified the Son of God, Acts 2. Yes, God was willing to forgive those who even killed His Son.

His desire that all be saved. "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance." {2 Peter 3:9} God takes absolutely no pleasure in the death of the wicked, Ezekiel 33:11. Sinful men will be forgiven, no matter what the sin, if they will repent and seek God's forgiveness. God holds out His hands to embrace any who will turn away from the bondage of sin.

The plan He designed before time began. "Just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love." {Ephesians 1:4} Even before He created the world, God knew mankind would sin and violate His will. So He designed a plan to bring us back into fellowship with Him, our Creator. He loved and was willing to forgive His creation. Yes, God forgives us, but we must also forgive ourselves. Thanks be to our God that all sin can be forgiven if one will repent and turn to Christ for His saving grace found in the blood of Christ! ***