

The Forgiveness of Sins

The Purpose of the Apostles' Creed:

1. To have an outline of the basics of our faith.
2. To be able to refute the cults.
3. To have unity among Christians on the absolutes.

Some thoughts on the phrase,

I Believe in the Forgiveness of Sins

Four Lessons We Learn About “The Forgiveness of Sins” from the Story of the Paralytic:

1. Nothing on earth is more important than forgiveness.

“When Jesus saw their faith, He said, “Friend, your sins are forgiven.” - Luke 5:20

- Why did the paralytic want to see Jesus?
- Why did his friends want to take him?
- What did the crowd want to see?

2. Only God can forgive sins.

“The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, ‘Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone.’”
- Luke 5:21

Our God is different than the gods worshipped by most cultures! How?

How is Our God Different?

a. He wants to forgive our sins.

“Who is a God like you, who **pardons sin** and **forgives the transgression** of the remnant of His inheritance? You do not stay angry forever, but **delight to show mercy**.¹⁹ You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.” - Micah 7:18,19

b. He knows how to forgive our sins.

“I have swept away your offenses like a cloud, your sins like the morning mist. Return to me, for I have redeemed you.” - Isaiah 44:22

c. His forgiveness is greater than all our sins.

“Therefore He is able to **save completely** those who come to God through Him...”
- Hebrews 7:25

3. Jesus has the authority to forgive sins.

“But that you may know that the Son of Man **has authority on earth to forgive sins...**” He said to the paralyzed man, “I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.” - Luke 5:24

“Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.” - Acts 4:12

4. The forgiveness of sins is a miracle.

“Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, “Why are you thinking these things in your hearts?²³ Which is easier: to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up and walk?’” - Luke 5:22

So How Do I Get This Forgiveness of Sins?

1. Recognize (that you are a sinner).
2. Repent.
3. Receive God’s forgiveness.

Have you received the forgiveness of your sins?

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