

The Apostles' Creed The Forgiveness of Sins

Psalm 51:1-17 ❖ Ephesians 4:32

"Sin, a little thing? Is it not poison? Who knows its deadliness? Sin, a little thing? Doth not the tiny coral insect build a rock that wrecks a Navy? Do not little strokes fell lofty oaks? Will not continual droppings wear away stones? Sin, a little thing? It girded the Redeemer's head with thorns and pierced His heart! It made Him suffer anguish, bitterness, and woe. Could you weigh the least sin in the scales of eternity, you would fly from it as from a serpent and abhor the least appearance of evil. Look upon all sin as that which crucified the Savior."
(Charles Spurgeon)

How Forgiving Are You?

As Jesus looked down at the Roman Soldiers who had _____ Him to the cross, they were _____ for His robe. Jesus said, "Father, _____ them, for they do not know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34).

As Czar Nicholas II looked at the communist guards who held he and his family _____ and had stripped him of all his _____, they raised their rifles. Before being brutally _____, the Czar's last words were, "Father, _____ them, for they do not know what they are doing."

"Be kind and compassionate to one another, _____ each other, just as in Christ God _____ you" (Ephesians 4:32).

Forgiven people _____.

"Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors" (Matthew 6:12) is a prayer _____. It is not a _____ to God's forgiveness of our debts.

When we say we _____ in the forgiveness of sins, we're professing belief in:

God's forgiveness of _____,
Our forgiveness of _____,
And our forgiveness of _____.

Three Aspects of Forgiveness

- 1) God _____ us.
"Have _____ on me, O God" (Psalm 51:1).
- 2) We _____ others.
"I know _____ transgressions" (Psalm 51:3).
- 3) We _____ ourselves.
"Renew a steadfast spirit _____ me" (Psalm 51:10).

Forgiveness 101

Philip Yancey has written that "forgiveness is a most _____ act." ("Christianity Today," April 1991, p. 37)

We often _____ at even the thought of forgiving someone.

Forgiveness is _____, and it always involves _____.

We must be intentional about enforcing _____, because forgiveness doesn't always result in _____.

Forgiveness is a _____. The main thing is to get _____.

Takeaway

This Easter, do you _____ in the forgiveness of sins?

God's forgiveness of _____?

Your forgiveness of _____?

And your forgiveness of _____?

This Easter, with the Lord's Table spread before us, let's ask God to "help us forgive _____ debtors as He has forgiven _____ debts."

