

"Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:"
Colossians 1:13-14 KJV



Death is separation from life and God who IS Life! *"The sting of death is sin. When lust (carnal desire) hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death!"* Through God's Mercy, Grace, and Love the humble penitent is delivered from the power of death's sting upon their repentance and call for salvation. Mercy withholds deserved punishment while Grace bestows undeserved reward. Because of this, the believing faithful will not taste death as our Savior already defeated death for us all on Golgotha's bloody hill. Jesus allowed the chains of death to bind Him. He omnipotently not only escaped its bondage, but utterly destroyed every sin hardened link of its captivity! God the eternal immortal sovereign killed death by dying! Wrap your brain around that, if you can! No believer will ever taste of its utter horror and absolute imprisonment! *"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me."* The Balm of Gilead has been forever graciously applied to the sin wounded penitent who through faith trusts and obeys the Word of God. We are forgiven upon repentance, and cleansed by our confession of the sin which *"doth so easily beset us."* We need not dread coming to Father when we sin. It is Satan who whispers, "You are so guilty!" and yes, we are, but we are also forgiven every time by Father when we simply repent and confess our sin to Him! Repentance is forsaking sin and confession is admitting it to God! Father has promised to forgive and cleanse every confessed sin. *"If we confess our sins, HE IS FAITHFUL and just TO FORGIVE us our sins, AND TO CLEANSE us from ALL unrighteousness."* There is no need whatsoever to delay our approach to the Throne of Grace and Forgiveness. Mercy has "fore given" us Grace. At the dawn of time, God "fore gave" mankind's trespasses as part of His eternal Plan. He covenanted with Himself in eternity past, to "fore give" His Mercy, Grace, and Love to the undeserving upon their humble repentance. Before Adam even sinned, he was granted mercy. The depths of God's Love can never be sounded! *"Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the Love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."* The Cross of Christ is the Cornerstone of eternity! Anticipation of pain is often worse than the pain itself, but our Lord anticipated His own torture and death from eternity past! He endured the stripes and suffering for *"the joy that was set before Him."* The saints are His reward and He is ours. From eternity past, He looked forward to the Joy of our companionship. It is all part of His infinitely Majestic Plan! It has more nuances of beauty than a rainbow in a sunlit spring shower. Our deliverance was carved into the Rock of our Salvation in the eternity past and will stand a testament to His Grace for all eternity!

O the love that drew Salvation's Plan,
O the Grace that brought it down to man,
O the mighty gulf that God did span,
At Calvary. ~William R. Newell – 1895

If your body gets dirty, you wash it. Your eternal soul is infinitely more important!

"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost." Titus 3:5 KJV