

HELEN SANDERS

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FORGIVING

Salvation comes as the result of God forgiving us of our sin. I said sin, not sins. We are born with a sin nature. You don't have to teach a child to sin, they inherited that nature to rebel from Adam and Eve, and like Adam and Eve we rebel and sin also. Yet, even in that condition, God reaches down and brings forgiveness when we repent of our sin.

Forgiving us is the greatest gift from God. It is only done out of love. When you think of the vilest crimes ever committed by someone, God still loved that sinner enough to let Jesus die for their sin. When they repent, they are new creations. The degree of sin takes no more or no less to be gone than God's loving act of forgiveness.

We are to demonstrate God's love as Christians by forgiving others. Often this is not easy especially if someone has been violated or been mishandled by others. It takes a great sacrifice to be willing to forgive those that have done this, yet it not only sets them free it sets us free too.

When we don't forgive, we are told in the scriptures that we won't be forgiven either. Forgiving is a gift that we shouldn't take lightly. It frees us and gives us new life.

Then there is the forgiving of ourselves. If we don't do that, then we live miserable defeated lives. Satan will try to keep us in bondage to our past sins and destroy us with tormenting thoughts. If you have repented of them God does not remember them. In a sense if you remember what you have repented of, you are making yourself bigger and better than God. So, my friends, whatever it is that you need to forgive yourself for do it today. Don't put it off.

There was only one that never sinned, and He gave His life for you and me. What a gift. Let's treasure it each day and be determined to forgive and forget. There truly is no forgiveness if we don't forget. We have to let go of what others did and what we have done then we will have the victory that true forgiveness brings.