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BEING A GOOD FORGETTER

Having counselled and ministered to hundreds of persons, I find that one of the hardest places many people find themselves in is the “past.” The victories, the heartaches, the defeats, the sin all cause one to live a defeated Christian life. There is not one person that hasn’t failed, because the scriptures tell us in Romans 3:23 that **“all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.”** If you compared your life’s good deeds to a dart board it would mean that all of us “missed the mark.” No one hit the bulls’ eye. Being a sinner doesn’t let us off the hook, but there is a way out through the gift of God through salvation.

Once a person is saved, Satan can’t defeat him in that area because you are born again of incorruptible seed that that never dies. At the same time, he does bring tormenting thoughts of our past into our thought life. He peppers the human mind with all of the things that we did before salvation (and after) that are sin, and constantly reminds us of our failures.

The Apostle Paul had been zealous to destroy the people of “the way”, which is what they called the early Christians. He was there when Stephen was stoned, and ravaged households and destroyed many lives. Once he received salvation things changed for him, but the weight of his past bore heavy on him. In Philippians 3:13 (Amplified version) he said, **“Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have made it my own yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the [heavenly] prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”** He learned that he had to let go of those things that he had done that had been repented of and move forward. If he didn’t, he could never have been the successful apostle that he was.

Have you done that? Have you made the choice to “forgive yourself” for the things of your past? Yes, they may have been very wrong things, but if God forgives you and you don’t forgive yourself then you are putting yourself higher than God. You are then walking as the accuser of the brethren, like Satan does. Once you have repented of a sin it is washed away in the blood of Jesus. God remembers them no more. They are buried in the sea of forgetfulness to never be remembered. God never brings it up again. It is Satan that speaks to you of your past failures, not God.

If you struggle with this, then you need to ask God to help you. Quit begging him to forgive you for sins that you have already repented of. Tell Satan to back off with his tormenting lies and start walking as a good forgetter. If God has forgiven you then it is settled forever. Don’t let Satan’s lies control your mind. Being a good forgetter will give you a victorious Christian life!