

It Just Wasn't Quite Enough, Lord
(Why dwelling in guilt is such an affront to God)

Father, I thank You for sending Your perfect Son, Jesus, to earth. I am grateful that He voluntarily took this demotion to come and rub elbows with all of us who fall so desperately short of Your righteous standard. I thank You that He taught us, healed us, delivered us, and loved us. I think it's wonderful that You accomplished Your eternal purpose by placing my sins and the sins of all other human beings on Him; I marvel at the personal sacrifice it was to You to assign my terrible misdeeds to Jesus who literally became sin on my behalf. You revealed Your manifold wisdom to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms by giving Jesus over to the powers of darkness and allowing Him to be deserted by His friends, and then to be ridiculed, humiliated, spit upon, and savagely beaten by His enemies. I understand the magnitude of Your love for me that ultimately moved You to turn Your precious Son over to be murdered in the most painful of manners, crucifixion, and then, at the moment of His most intense physical and emotional pain, You withdrew Your conscious presence from Him so that He would experience Your full wrath in Hell to pay for my sins. And finally, by Your wisdom and power You raised Him from the dead to confirm the whole incredible transaction and to give me a future and a hope.

Father, I understand all these things; I agree intellectually to all these truths. I just don't *feel* they were quite enough to cover my sin. Sorry, Father, I still *feel* guilty.

Heb 10:14

"For by that one offering (Jesus' death on the cross) He perfected forever all those whom He is making holy." NLT

God's Forgiveness to be Trusted and Enjoyed

(Scripture References from the NIV)

"As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us." Psalm 103:12

"Come now and let us reason together," says the Lord, "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow." Isaiah 1:18

"I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; and I will not remember your sins. Put Me in remembrance; let us contend together; state your case, that you may be acquitted." Isaiah 43:25-26

"The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against him." Daniel 9:9

This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. Matt 26:28

"Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord." Acts 3:19

"There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus ..."
Romans 8:1

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, behold, all things have become new." 2 Corinthians 5:17

"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace." Ephesians 1:7

"For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."
Colossians 1:13-14

"Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more." Hebrews 10:17 (Jer 31:34)

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

"My little children, these things I write to you, that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." 1 John 2:1

