

## Discussion on the Forgiveness of Sin under the Old Testament

1. There are several times in the Old Testament where we can read these words , your sins are forgiven . This was said unto those who had offered the proper blood sacrifices for their sins.

2. In the New Testament, we can read in Hebrews 10:1-4 and Hebrews 10: 11, where it says that the blood of bulls and goats could never take away sin. These verses sound like they are in direct contradiction to one another, But we know that there are no contradictions in the Bible. Question-How are going to harmonize these verses? There is a verse in Rom. 4:17 that I believe will shed some light on this problem. Here is what it says. As it is written, I have made you a father of many nations. ( Paul tells us in verse 16, who he is talking about.) He is talking about a conversation that God and Abraham had back in Gen. 12 and Gen 15. God told Abraham, ( I have, made thee a father of many nations) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead and calleth those things, which be not, as though they were. The thing that Paul wants his readers to understand is, some times God speaks of things, which are yet in the future, just like they have already happened. Then he gives this example, to explain what he means. He says, that one time when God was talking to Abraham, He said. I have made you a father of many nations, and at the time God said this to him, He and Sarah did not even have any children. Yet God has just told him that you are already the father of many nations. So in God's eyes. He sees this, as something, that has already happened years ago.

So we can see that sometimes, that God calls non-existing things, just like they do exist. Because in God's eyes, they were existing at that time. Notice-- God did not say to Abraham, that some day in the near future, I will make you a father of many nations. He said I have already done that.

As we study this lesson, we must keep in our mind, that God planned everything for the future of this world, before He ever created the first day. Lets read some verses that tells us this. In John 6:64 we read-- But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were, that believed not,and, who should betray him, and then Jesus continues his teaching in verse 70 when He says. Have not I chosen you twelve, and one on you is a devil.

Now lets notice, what Jesus is really saying here in this verse. He told all the twelve Apostles, I chose all you, knowing that one of you hath a devil. Did we hear that?

Question? Why did Jesus purposely choose a man who had a devil? Because, God's plan, included some one who would betray Jesus, which would lead to his crucifiction. Have we ever wondered how God could have his Prophet's, prophecy so many prophesies, and every one, of them come to pass exactly like they were prophesied, even to the smallest detail? How could this be? It is called, God's foreknowledge. This is the reason that God never makes a mistake, because He had already drawn up his Blue Print, exactly like He wanted it, before He created the first day.

Now, lets read Rev. 17:8. The beast that thou sawest, was, and is not, and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: And they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world. Question? What is John telling us here in this verse? It sounds to me like John is saying, before God, ever created the first day, that He made two lists of names. One list, had every name, of every person, who ever lived, and who lived faithful until death. The other list, had every name, of every person, who did not live by faith. They were the unbelievers, who had chosen not to live according to God's word. So all that He had to do, was to look into the hearts of people, and then write down their names, on these two lists.

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