

What Does God Do with Heaven's Trash?

By Allen Webster, *House to House Heart to Heart*, Oct. 2024

HE BURIES IT

HE CASTS IT INTO THE DEPTHS OF THE SEA

HE FLINGS IT BEHIND HIS BACK (ISAIAH 38:17) AND HIDES HIS FACE FROM IT (PSALM 51:9)

We use the phrase “out of sight, out of mind” because we tend to forget things we cannot see. For instance, have you ever forgotten to pay a bill because it got mixed in a stack of mail and you forgot it was due? An omniscient God never forgets anything—unless He does so on purpose. He purposely conceals our sins so they are not remembered. What a comforting thought!

When our sins are forgiven, they are forgotten. The past is gone, dead, crucified, remembered no more. What God forgives, He forgets.

HE EXPORTS IT

Some trash has been exported to poor countries, who either thought they could salvage something from it or felt the price they were paid was worth it. God exports our sins. He removes them from us “as far as the east is from the west” (Psalm 103:12). It is interesting that God did not use the similar figure of “as far as the north is from the south” because you can only go so far north and then you must go south. Therefore, the distance from the North Pole to South Pole is a specific distance: 12,403 miles. But when will east meet west? It never will, because you can go east for the rest of your life and never start to go west. How far is it from east to west? It is infinite. That is how far God removes our sins from us!

HE OBLITERATES IT

Some types of rubbish (military munitions, for instance) are destroyed by exploding them. They are obliterated. You could say that God obliterates our sins. They are erased from His memory forever (Jeremiah 31:34; Hebrews 8:12; 10:17). One man complained to his coworker about a fight he had with his wife the night before. “She got really worked up. I mean, eventually she got historical.”

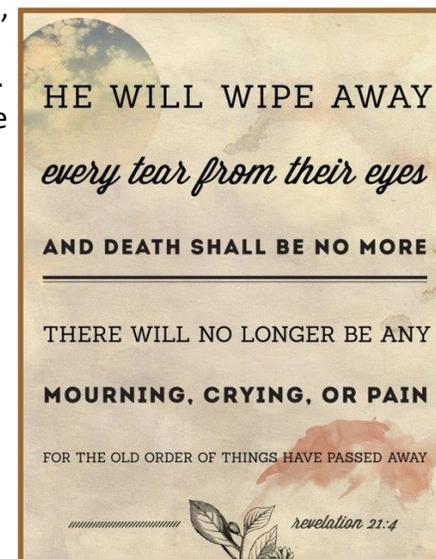
His friend laughed and said, “You mean she got hysterical.” “No, she got historical.

She brought up every mistake I have made in the last ten years of our marriage.”

That is the way we sometimes “forgive.” We keep a mental record of offenses and bring them up again later. But God is not like that. Forgiven

Prayers and Concerns

- ◆ Dale Strong is on the third floor at Baxter getting rehab therapy, and he is slowly getting better. It's okay to visit, and if he is having therapy, Brenda needs visits too.
- ◆ Kitty Pace (Bill Cockrum's niece) fell a week ago breaking her leg and damaging her artificial knee.
- ◆ Remember those with health issues—Dorlene and Larry Butler, Aleta Collins, Vernon James, Ruth Strain, Bob Robbins.
- ◆ All those battling cancer—Lisa Langston, Tiffany Pleasant, Amy Myers, Don Luna, Jim Kirkland, Wayman King, Donna Shipley, Elaine Hunter (Larry's sister), Dawn (Chris Lemburg's sister), Lionel Daugherty, Jana Crisp, Richard Blackburn, Jenny James, Debbie Eslinger, Sharon Fox, Bill Agee, Joy Cutbirth.
- ◆ GHCC: Virginia Hambelton, Bonnie Ebrite, Delphia Holmes. Clifford Lansdown at Hiram Shaddox; Wilbern Uchtman at Brook Haven.



sin has no “history.” It is forever gone. Jesus came to “make an end of sins” and to bring in “everlasting righteousness” (Daniel 9:24).

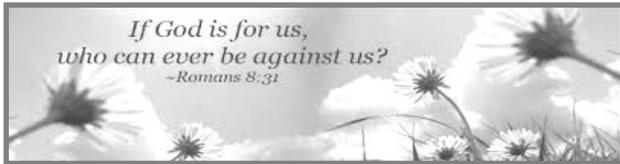
Our sins are expunged from our official file (Isaiah 44:22) when we obey His gospel by believing in Jesus (John 3:16), repenting of sin (Luke 13:3), confessing Christ (Matthew 10:32), and being baptized for remission of sins (Acts 2:38). Since they are erased, they cannot be imputed (Psalm 32:2; Romans 4:7–8; 2 Corinthians 5:19). That is, God does not reckon this sin against us. The word “impute” is a mathematical or bookkeeping term. God keeps a record of our debts (sins); but, in forgiving them, He no longer keeps up with it. The ledger has a zero balance (Ezekiel 18:22; 33:16).

Rest easy; God has heaven's trash under control.

Birthdays		Anniversaries	
11-5	Bill Cockrum	11-4	Jim and Debra Lane
11-5	Melissa Rumenapp	11-16	Tinker and Karen Langston
11-7	Wanda Beard	11-16	Cayce and Rebecca Gosdin
11-13	Kay Young	Birthdays	
11-15	Kelly Lemberg	11-24	Lincoln Gosdin (4)
11-21	Merle Scott	11-25	Henry Flaugher
11-22	Larry Butler	11-28	Andrew Hambelton
11-24	Clifford Lansdown (85)		

Vicki is serving spaghetti, salad, bread, and dessert for our Wednesday night fellowship meal at 6 p.m. Come join us!

Date	Event	Details
Sat. Nov. 8 10 a.m.	Ladies' Prayer Brunch	Frontier Baptist at Pontiac
Wed. Nov. 19, 6 p.m. No supper or class here	Community Thanksgiving Service with potluck supper after	Halbert speaking at Lilly Ridge Church—Bring food to share
Dec. 22, 6:30	Christmas Play	Kids presenting play



November Worship Assignments

Welcome & Shepherd's Prayer

11-2 Don Luna
11-9 John Abraham
11-16 Mark Lane
11-23 David Stevens
11-30 Don Luna

Communion & Closing Prayer

David Stevens
Don Reynolds
Tinker Langston
Titus Smith
Paul Wade

Song Leader: John Abraham
Greeters: Dana and Marsha Crisp

The Family News

November 2, 2025

Gainesville Church of Christ

PO Box 7, 23550 US Hwy. 160, Gainesville, MO 65655
www.gainesvillechurchofchrist.org

A Place to Call Home

We welcome you and are so glad you could worship with us today.

Schedule of Services

Sunday

9:30 a.m. Bible Classes for All Ages

10:30 a.m. Worship Service: ***Will We Know Each Other in Heaven?***

Wednesday

6 p.m. Fellowship Supper

7 p.m. Bible Classes for all ages

Sunday Worship Outline

Welcome and Shepherd's Prayer

Kids Singing up front

Above the Bright Blue; #870, Beyond this Land of Parting

#346, He Lives; Communion Service

#853, When We All Get to Heaven

Sermon and Invitation

#922; Jesus Paid It All

#859, When All of God's Singers Get Home; Closing Prayer

Offering baskets are located at the back.

We are a community of redeemed sinners who are following Jesus Christ, proclaiming the gospel of grace, loving our Lord and one another.

Elders

Mark Lane 417-679-4835
Don Luna 417-712-1945
David Stevens 417-679-4700
John Abraham 870-421-5632

Deacons

Larry Butler 817-504-1604
Dana Crisp 417-331-5090
James Langston 870-315-4355

Preacher

Halbert Smith 417-257-3880

Ministers: Every Member—Each One of Us