



FORGET

ABOUT THE PAST

FEBRUARY 2020

I pray that this letter finds you blessed and prospering in the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

As you read the following passage from Philippians 3:12-14, there are two things that I want you to notice. Paul exhorted the church at Philippi to: 1) forget those things that are behind; and 2) reach forth to those things that are before.

Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Before you can successfully continue with God, you must forget about the past. Don't allow it to stop you from entering into your future. Paul, once known as Saul of Tarsus, had to forget about his past as a persecutor of Christians before he could minister effectively. What things from your past must you forget so that you may fulfill the whole will of God for your life? Don't let your past stop your ministry for God. Some people spend more time reliving the past than they do preparing for their future.

Notice something Paul said about himself when writing to Timothy (1 Timothy 1:11-16):

According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust. And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled

me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry; Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief. Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

The Word of God tells us that he (then Saul) was present at the stoning of Stephen (Acts 7:58) and that he consented to that brutal death (Acts 8:1). Thank God that His

great mercy reached Paul! That's one of the things Paul meant when he said, *"Forgetting those things which are behind...I press toward the mark."* It would have been a terrible thing for him to continually dwell on the havoc he had wrought in the church by consenting to Stephen's death and persecuting other believers.

If we are to be successful in our Christian lives and in the ministries to which God has called us, there is one thing we must do just as Paul did—we must learn to forget. If we don't learn this lesson, we'll spend the rest of our lives handicapped. Look closely at what the Lord Himself said in Isaiah 43:25: *"I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions...and will not remember thy sins."* This is also repeated in the New Testament (Hebrews 8:12; 10:17). If God doesn't remember your sins, why should you? Learn to forget your past.

Notice what God said in the next verse (Isaiah 43:26): *"Put me in remembrance..."* In other words, God is telling us to remind Him of what He said in Isaiah 43:25! He wants us to remind Him that He said, *"I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins."* God didn't say that He would blot out and forget your sins for *your* sake (although you do benefit from it). No, He said it was for *His* sake that He would blot them out and forget. Why? So that He can bless you, help you, and demonstrate His great mercy and love on your behalf. Praise God!

Learn to forget so that you will be successful in fulfilling God's will for your life. You can do it, because *"God's got your back."* Taffi and I love you and pray for you daily. Remember, Jesus is Lord, and *"...in all of your getting, get understanding."*

In Expectation,



Creflo Dollar

P.S. Please download this month's free message, ***How to Overcome Emotional Hurt***, at <https://bit.ly/2I7tesJ>. I know it will really bless your life.

***"I—YES, I ALONE—WILL BLOT OUT YOUR SINS FOR MY OWN SAKE
AND WILL NEVER THINK OF THEM AGAIN" (ISAIAH 43:25, NLT).***

2020

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FULFILL THE WHOLE WILL OF GOD

—

GOD DOESN'T THINK ABOUT MY SINS, AND NEITHER DO I! (ISAIAH 43:25, NLT)
GOD'S GRACE, FAITH, AND LOVE HAVE BEEN POURED OUT ON ME. (1 TIMOTHY 1:14, NIV)

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