



## Monday Matters

### January 21, 2013

#### **Forgive and Forget**

I was about eight years of age at the time and had just received a brand new sled for Christmas. I was anxious to try it out. Having grown up in the Midwest we usually had plenty of cold and snow. So one Saturday my dad and mom packed me and my sled in the car and we drove to a park that had a good steep hill. There were plenty of kids on their sleds and toboggans going down that hill. I think I had gone down the hill a couple of times when my dad had a great idea. He wanted to borrow my sled and try going down the hill himself. I'm sure I wasn't too happy about his idea but after all, he was my dad and I let him use it. He put the sled by the edge of the hill and sat down on it.

Maybe by now you have guessed that my sled didn't go down the hill but rather turned into a pancake. With his 200 pounds he crushed it to the ground. A great day for sledding ended abruptly. My dad promised he would buy me a new sled. I waited for the new sled but it never arrived. I quickly changed interest from having a sled to something different. While I know I forgave my dad for smashing my sled and also for never replacing it, I have never forgotten it.

The other day I was reading a blog post by Chuck Sumner that read: "I struggled with a sense of not feeling worthy of the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus Christ and that this gift could and would be taken from me at any time for some infraction. I believed God could not possibly forgive me for all the sins I've committed. It

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**In The Depths of the Sea  
The Cathedrals**

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#### **Quote of the Week**

"In the sea of God's forgetfulness  
my sins are cast away. When I came  
to know the Savior the price of sin  
was paid.

What a blessing there is in  
knowing, that I'm clean from the  
inside out, He no longer  
remembers my sin, and my  
eternity's no longer in doubt."

~Joe Medrek~

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**The Nelson Family**

was only a matter of time before He found out my true past and I got what I deserved."

I remember in the days before marker boards we had caulk boards. Teachers in school made a mess of those boards, especially math teachers. They would write numbers everywhere and then erase them. Then they would write over the caulk dust left behind and by the end of the day it was sometimes very hard to see the most current scribbles on the board. The eraser never completely erased everything. Then at the end of the day someone, maybe a student, came in and washed the caulk board with clean water. When it dried it was as if there had never been a mark on it. When God forgives our sins, it is a lot like washing that caulk board. It is as if there had never had a mark or sin.



**Watch this video to the end**

Chuck learned that Jesus not only forgives but also forgets. In Micah 7:19 it says, "You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea." Simply put this means that He won't remember our sins once He has forgiven them. He doesn't ever change His mind and be like "Oh, never mind, you messed up so badly that I am choosing to remember them again." In a song written by Phil and Carolyn Cross entitled "In the Depths of the Sea" the second verse goes like this:

Gone are the shackles, gone are the stains  
I'm free from bondage, free from the chains  
My sins are separated as darkness from dawn  
Praise God, I'm forgiven, my sins are gone.



Anthony, Kristin, Leif, Juliana,  
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## **Monday Matters**

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**"Pasture Politics"**

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