

## “JESUS FORGAVE SINS!”

(Lk. 5:20-21)

*“20 And seeing their faith, he said, Man, thy sins are forgiven thee. 21 And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, Who is this that speaketh blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?”* Lk. 5:20-21. Later we shall list places where Jesus forgave sins. It is a fact that Jesus **“forgave sins”** while on earth. Considering the thought of one forgiving sins, becomes an interesting endeavor - the thought that **“God alone can forgive sins.”** I believe the scribes and Pharisees were right when they said, *“Who can forgive sins, but God alone?”*

It is true that when one sins, he sins against God. *“4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law,”* (KJV) 1 Jno. 3:4. God is the one who gave the law; thus, is the one sinned against, when one transgresses his law. The sinner becomes the one who commits sin and God is the one that is sinned against. The rule stated is, God is sinned against and man is the sinner. Man then, because of sin, ask God to forgive him. All sins committed are by man and before there is the remission of sins there has to be an approach to God, on God's terms. . *“Who can forgive sins but God alone,”* Lk, 5:21

**JESUS FORGAVE SIN:** In Matt. 9:2; Mk. 2:5; and Lk. 5:20 the man with palsy is healed and his sins are forgiven. A woman that was a sinner, began to wet the feet of Jesus with her tears, and wipe his feet with her hair, and anointed his feet, and kissed his feet, is forgiven of her sins which were many, Lk. 7:48. Then we have the famous statement made while on the cross: *“34 ... Father forgive them for they know not what they do,”* Lk. 23:34. This last passage can only be understood, when these same individuals are told to repent and be baptized, Acts 2:38, Acts 2:22-24. They were not forgiven at the moment the Lord prayed for them; but rather, when they obeyed the Gospel! In each of these cases, Jesus forgave sin; but **only God can forgive sin**; so, Jesus was God and forgave sins while he was on earth.

There are many passages which teach Jesus was God, on earth. 1 Jno. 1:1, *“In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”* In 1 Jno. 1:14 we are told, *“14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld his glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father), full of grace and truth.”* The Word, (Jesus), came in the flesh, God prepared a body for him, Heb. 10:5. From this we have God **incarnated** in flesh. *“23 Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, And they shall call his name Immanuel; which is, being interpreted, God with us,”* Matt. 1:23. **The I AMs of the book of John** establish the deity of Christ, he was, is, and always will be. So now we are back to the point of Jesus forgiving sin. **Only God can forgive sin**; but, Jesus forgave sin; so, **Jesus was God!**

The idea of Jesus forgiving men of their sins is evidence that **He was God**. *“Who can forgive sins, but God alone?”* Lk. 5:20-21.

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