

Absolute Forgiveness

By Santiago Lange

When we think of the great personalities in the Bible, the names Moses, David, and Paul come to mind. These men all have something in common, they all committed serious mistakes and sins in their lives.



Moses committed murder when he killed an Egyptian in his anger. Yet, Moses ended up being led by God to become the anointed leader of Israel, empowered by God, to free the nation out of Egypt into the Promised Land.

David, king over Israel, was responsible for the leadership and vitality of the nation. David committed not only adultery with Bathsheba, but he also was guilty of the murder of her husband. How could such a man continue to rule as king and even be guided by God to write many of the inspiring Psalms found in the Old Testament?

Lastly, **Saul**, later known to us as the apostle Paul. He had been responsible for the deaths and persecutions of many Christians, a most terrible crime. But, Saul became an apostle of Christ picked by God to pen most of the New Testament. Again, how could this happen?

How did such men, with such severe flaws and sins against God end up being such powerful figures in the ministry of the Gospel? The answer: through the grace of God and the total forgiveness that is granted through the Cross of Jesus Christ.

1. Timothy 1:15-16 highlights forgiveness with the personal witness of the apostle Paul.

"Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners--of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display His unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on Him and receive eternal life."

I don't know where you find yourself spiritually at this very moment. We have tasted the salvation of God and have experienced the forgiveness of Christ, but perhaps some of us have not fully understood the extent of such grace. Whatever spiritual state we may find ourselves in, the Bible has wonderful Good News to tell us: God offers total forgiveness for anyone, anytime, and for any sins.

Romans 8:31-39

"What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God

has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Put your trust in Jesus!