

Colossians Series

Lesson #42

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Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbible.org

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A landscape photograph showing a field of trees in the foreground, a hill in the middle ground, and mountains in the background under a clear sky. The text is overlaid on the image.

COLOSSIANS: Jesus Christ is All-Sufficient

**Forgiveness:
God, Others, and Self**

Colossians 2:12–14

Col. 2:11, “and in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ;

Col. 2:12, “having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

Col. 2:13, “When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions,

Col. 2:14, “having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

Col. 2:15, “When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.”

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Col. 2:13, “When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, **having forgiven [because He had already graciously canceled] all our transgressions,**

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Col. 2:15, “When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.”

THREE STAGES OF SALVATION

PHASE

ONE

Justification

PHASE

TWO

**Spiritual
Life**

PHASE

THREE

Glorification

**Positional
Sanctification**

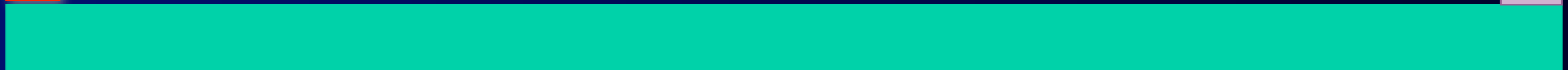
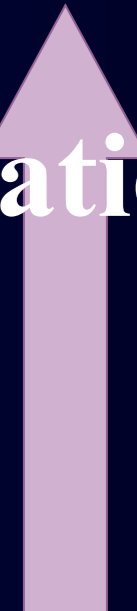
**Freed from
Penalty of Sin**

**Progressive
Sanctification**

**Freed from
Power of Sin**

**Ultimate
Sanctification**

**Freed from
Presence of Sin**



ETERNAL REALITIES

TEMPORAL REALITIES

“POSITIONAL TRUTH”

ACTS 16:31



IN CHRIST

Baptism by the Holy Spirit

FILLED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

“Walking by the Holy Spirit”

**2:12 “In Him [no “and”] you were baptized [at faith in Christ]
[when] you were buried with Him in baptism
in [by] which you were raised together with Him**

2:13

**“And you being dead [when you were dead]
in your trespasses and uncircumcision of the
flesh**

He made you alive together with Him [main verb Aor]

**[by, or when or because] He forgave you all
trespasses**

2:14

**“[because] he had cancelled... when he took it...
when he nailed it to the cross.”**

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ὄντας - present active participle of *eimi*, to be, to exist
no article, adverbial modifying “has made alive”

Pres ptcp is at the same time as the action of the verb: “made alive.” This expresses our status at the time we are made alive with Him.

Temporal: When you were dead in your trespasses...

Concessive: Though you were dead in your trespasses...

Our status was DEAD—not physically, but spiritually.

Col. 2:13, “And you, when you were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,”

Why uncircumcision here?

In Eph. 2 it is “dead in your trespasses and sins.”

In Colosse the challenge was circumcision, and the answer focuses on spiritual regeneration and identification with Christ.

Col. 2:13, “And you, when you were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,”

**συζωοποιέω suzōpoiéō
aor act indicative,
“to make alive together with”**

Eph. 2:5, “even though we were dead in our transgressions, God made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

Eph. 2:6, “and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,”

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**συζωοποιέω *suzōpoiéō*
aor act indicative,
“to make alive together with**

**χαρίζομαι *charízomai*;
aor act ptcp mns
adverbial of cause**

- 1. to give freely or graciously**
- 2. to cancel a sum of money or debt that is owed, Luke 7:42ff**
- 3. to forgive or pardon an action.**

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aor act indicative,
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**χαρίζομαι *charízomai*;
aor act ptcp mns
adverbial of cause**

“because he had already forgiven/cancelled”

Or

“after he had already forgiven/cancelled”

- 1. to give freely or graciously**
- 2. to cancel a sum of money or debt that is owed, Luke 7:42ff**
- 3. to forgive or pardon an action.**

The Words for “Forgive”

ἀφίημι v. (*aphiēmi*), “let go, cancel, remit, leave, forgive”
**ἄφεσις n. (*aphesis*), “release, pardon, cancellation,
forgiveness”**

Emphasizes the *act* of forgiveness

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Emphasizes the *act* of forgiveness

χαρίζομαι (*charizomai*), show favor or kindness, give as a favor, to be gracious to someone, to pardon;

Emphasizes the *attitude* of forgiveness

The Words for “Forgive”

Eph. 4:32, “And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving [*charizomai*] one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.”

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Eph. 4:32, “And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving [*charizomai*] one another, even as God in Christ forgave [*charizomai*] you.”

1 John 1:9, “If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive [*aphiemi*] us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

How is Forgiveness from God Related to Our Forgiveness of Others?

Mark 11:25, “And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses.

Mark 11:26, “But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses.”

How is Forgiveness from God Related to Our Forgiveness of Others?

Matt. 6:14, “For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.

Matt. 6:15, “But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”

How Many Times do We Forgive Another?

Matt. 18:21, “Then Peter came to Him and said, ‘Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?’

Matt. 18:22, “Jesus said to him, ‘I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.’ ”

Eph. 1:7, “In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.”

Col. 1:14, “in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.”

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Col. 1:14, “in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness [*aphesis*] of sins.”

ἀπολύτρωσις (*apolytrōsis*), redemption, deliverance, release

FOUR Categories of Forgiveness

1. Forgiveness directed toward God, where the justice of God cancels the debt of sin. For all mankind without distinction.

Col. 2:13, “And you, [when you were] dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, [BECAUSE He cancelled] all [the legal guilt of your] trespasses,

Col. 2:14, “having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.”

FOUR Categories of Forgiveness

- 1. Forgiveness directed toward God, where the justice of God cancels the debt of sin. For all mankind without distinction. *Forensic Forgiveness***
- 2. Forgiveness positionally *in Christ*. Eph. 1:7**
- 3. Experiential forgiveness. 1 John 1:9**
- 4. Relational forgiveness. Eph. 4:32**