

## FORGIVENESS OF SINS.

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### THE ABSOLUTENESS OF THIS FORGIVENESS.

**T**HE moment when God forgives a poor penitent sinner, on the ground of the blood-shedding of Jesus, is a moment which occurs but *once* in the history of any soul. The forgiveness is absolute, and the act is never repeated. After that, God may have to say to us as disobedient children, and may repeatedly forgive in a governmental way, releasing us from chastisement under His rod; but this is a different thing, and is not the same as the one absolute and eternal pardon we received when we first believed the gospel.

Under the law, when forgiveness was governmental and connected with sacrifices which were only types, forgiveness was constantly repeated, because these sacrifices could not take away sins. On the day of atonement, according to Lev. xvi. there was a remembrance of sins every year. (Heb. x. 3. 4). The reason was, those sacrifices could not take sins away, and so could not purge the conscience, and set it clear in the presence of a holy God. A better sacrifice was needed, and that came in the sacrifice offered by Christ, when He offered Himself. The sacrifice of bulls and goats might serve as types, or as a governmental provision for an earthly people, availing for a year, after which there was a new

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