

The Factor

Starting Over with God and Men

The Factor

Gospel = good news and glad tidings

**Full Bible proof
for this simple study
and much more material
are found in links at the end.**

**Two sermons were
preached on this subject
on 11/25/2001 at this link:**

<http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/all.php?year=2001>

Our God Is Holy

- He cannot approve of sinners (Ex 34:7; Na 1:3; Hab 1:13).
- He hates sin and sinners (Pr 6:16-19; Ps 5:5; 11:5; 139:21-22).
- He judges the wicked severely (Ps 7:11; Rev 21:8,27).
- He chastens saints severely (Acts 5:1-11; I Cor 11:30).
- Saints are polluted in His sight (Job 42:5-6; Isaiah 6:1-7).

He Expects You to Be Holy

- So He condemns unholy religion (Is 1:10-15; II Tim 3:2).
- So He commands your holiness (I Pet 1:13-17; Heb 12:14).
- We must cut off unholy activities (I Co 6:19-20; II Co 7:1).
- We must cut off unholy friends (I Cor 15:33; Titus 1:8).
- We must exclude unholy members (I Cor 5:9-11).

But Jesus died to save sinners!

**This is a faithful saying,
and worthy of all acceptation,
that Christ Jesus came into the world
to save sinners;
of whom I am chief.**

I Timothy 1:15



You Are Legally Forgiven (1)

- Jesus paid for elect's sins – past, present, future.
- God forgave elect legally through Jesus (Eph 1:3-8).
- There is total peace with God for Judgment Day.
- There is no variation at anytime in this standing.
- The key here is faith and works to prove election.

You Are Legally Forgiven (2)

- This is a once-for-all forgiveness to legal holiness.
- Nothing can ever be laid to your charge legally.
- There is no starting over legally – *it is finished!*
- Yet ... as foolish rebels ... we continue to sin.
- These sins bring grief, guilt, and God's chastening.

What Happens When You Sin?

- You grieve and offend God and bring chastening.
- It should not happen, but it does happen, often.
- You lose fellowship with God and are dried up.
- But ... there is practical forgiveness for fellowship.
- And ... this forgiveness is only by your repentance.

Why Is Starting Over Hard?

- Proud by nature, you hate humble confession.
- You are depraved and resent admitting wrong.
- You let Satan discourage you with fiery darts.
- You let him overwhelm you with doubts and fear.
- He makes God or us harsh and forgiveness hard.

You can start over with God any time.

No sin is too big for Him to forgive.

No sinner has too many sins to forgive.

You cannot start over too many times.

It all depends on the **R factor!**

Example of the Prodigal Son

- At all times he was the legal son of his father.
- But by rebellion he lost fellowship with his father.
- The father used “dead” only for lack of fellowship.
- Fellowship needs ... (1) the rebel’s repentance.
- Fellowship needs ... (2) the father’s forgiveness.





Example of the Prodigal Son

- The rebel truly repented ... to be a servant!
- The father truly forgave ... celebrating a son!
- He even corrected the older brother's envy.
- Fellowship required ... the rebel's repentance.
- Fellowship required ... the father's forgiveness.

**If you have sinned,
no matter how big or
small, you can and
should repent!**

**Do not worry about
God doing His part!
He will mercifully
run to meet you!**

**Are you serious that the
God we worship forgives
so quickly and fully?**

Our God Delights in Mercy!

Who is a God like unto thee,
that pardoneth iniquity, and
passeth by the transgression of
the remnant of his heritage? he
retaineth not his anger for ever,
because he delighteth in mercy.

Micah 7:18

Our God Forgave These Sinners!

Jonah

Thief

Mary Magdalene

Peter

Woman in adultery

David

Publican

Manasseh

Peter Again

Ahab

Sinner Woman

Zacchaeus

**Are you serious that the
God we worship forgives
so quickly and fully?**



Horns Announced Jubilee

- It was blown in the day of atonement! Amen!
- Total liberty was proclaimed to all of Israel!
- A year of vacation and reclaiming all assets.
- Every 7 and 50 yrs each man got to start over.
- It started with ... repenting on Day of Atonement.

**Are you serious that the
God we worship forgives
so quickly and fully?**



How High Is Heaven?

- We pick the second heaven for 200B galaxies!
- Big galaxies have 100 trillion stars in orbit!
- Some galaxies are 13B light years from earth.
- How high is heaven? Too high to measure!
- What does this have to do with you? Read on!

Isaiah 55:7

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

- Forsaking and returning = Repentance!
- God will have mercy on you – believe it!
- God will abundantly pardon – believe it!

Isaiah 55:8-9

8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

- God shows mercy and pardons very differently!
- As heaven's height cannot be measured, so God!
- Why would anyone doubt or fear God's mercy?

**Are you serious that the
God we worship forgives
so quickly and fully?**

Yes!

**He is the infinite Jehovah
with abundant mercy!**

Yes!

**He bruised and killed His
Son so He could show
such mercy to you!**



How BIG of a sin
can God forgive
as easily as you
have described?



Think aggravated
adultery and
murder!



How LITTLE of a
sin can God
forgive as you
have described?



Think Asa's high
places and many
men's polygamy!

I'm So Happy

*I'm so happy and here's the reason why -
Jesus took my burdens all away;*

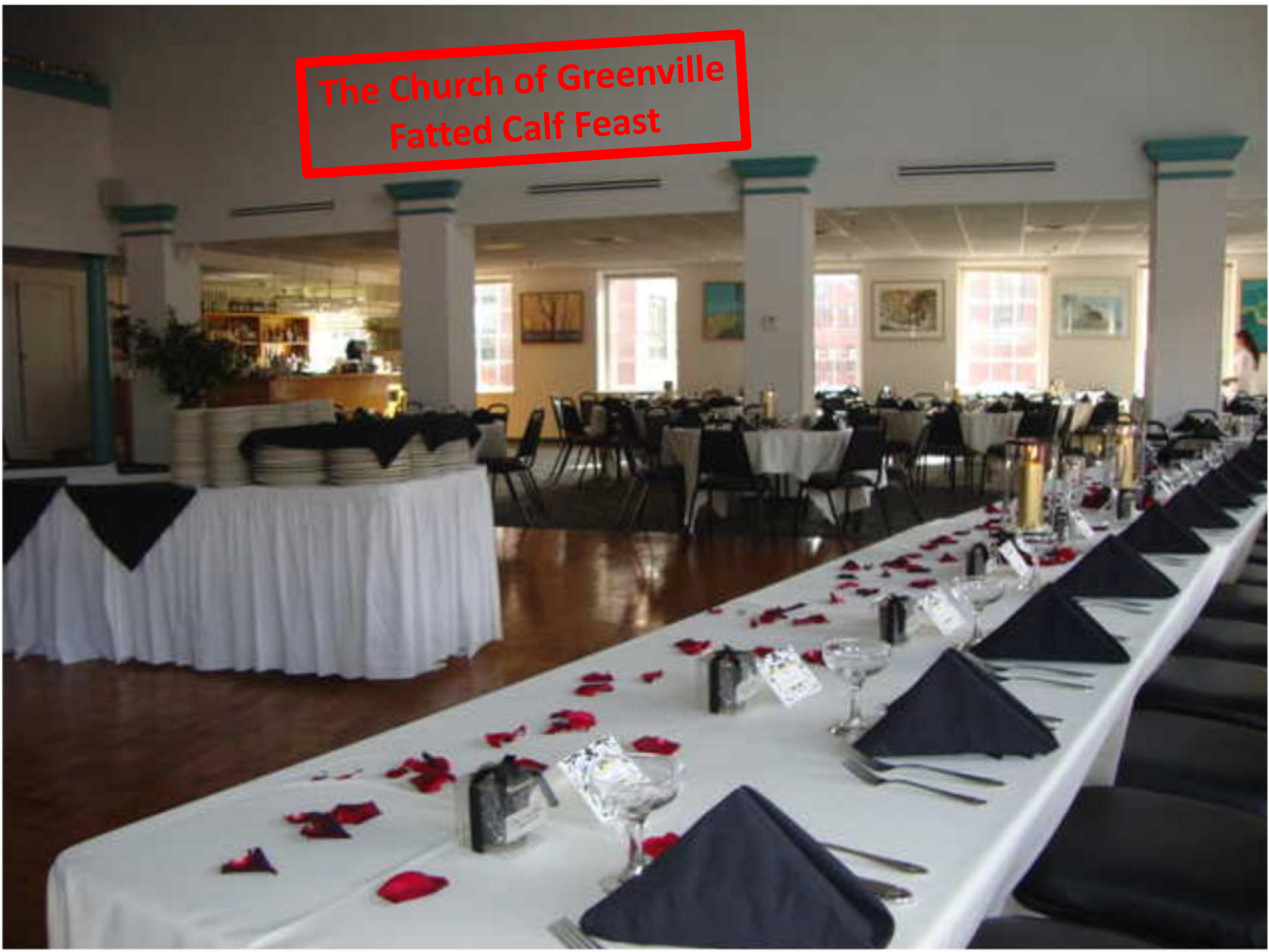
*Now I'm singing as the days go by -
Jesus took my burdens all away.*

*Once my heart was heavy with a load of sin;
Jesus took the load and gave me peace within.*

*Now I'm singing as the days go by -
Jesus took my burden all away.*



**The Church of Greenville
Fatted Calf Feast**



What Is a 'Fatted Calf' Feast?

- It is how our church celebrates a repenting sinner!
- We eat the best; buy him clothes, shoes, and ring!
- Sins repented of are forgotten and never recalled!
- We fulfill prodigal's father and feasts of charity!
- How did we learn this? From the Spirit and word!

The Factor

It Makes all the Difference in the World!

The Factor

What Is It? How Do I Get It?

R = Repentance

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A = Admit your sin is your fault.

R = Repudiate it as perverse folly.

C = Change your conduct about it.

R = Repentance

C = Confess the sin is your fault.

A = Abandon it in every way.

R = Reform your actions about it.



= Repentance

If we confess our sins,
he is faithful and just
to forgive us our sins,
and to cleanse us
from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9



= Repentance

He looketh upon men,
and if any say, I have sinned,
and perverted that which was
right, and it profited me not;
He will deliver his soul from
going into the pit, and his life
shall see the light.

Job 33:27-28



= Repentance

I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.

Psalm 32:5



= Repentance

For I will declare mine iniquity;
I will be sorry for my sin.

Psalm 38:18



= Repentance

For I acknowledge my
transgressions: and my sin is
ever before me. Against thee,
thee only, have I sinned, and
done this evil in thy sight: that
thou mightest be justified when
thou speakest, and be clear
when thou judgest.

Psalm 51:3-4



= Repentance

He that covereth his sins
shall not prosper: but whoso
confesseth and forsaketh them
shall have mercy.

Proverbs 28:13



= Repentance

I will arise and go to my father,
and will say unto him, Father, I
have sinned against heaven,
and before thee,

And am no more worthy to be
called thy son: make me as one
of thy hired servants.

Luke 15:18-19



= Repentance

O Israel, return unto the
LORD thy God; for thou hast
fallen by thine iniquity. Take
with you words, and turn to the
LORD: say unto him, Take away
all iniquity, and receive us
graciously: so will we render
the calves of our lips.

Hosea 14:1-2

Is It That Easy? *Yes!*

**If we confess our sins,
he is faithful and just
to forgive us our sins,
and to cleanse us
from all unrighteousness.**

I John 1:9

Is It That Easy? *Yes!*

**The sacrifices of God
are a broken spirit:
a broken and a contrite heart,
O God, thou wilt not despise.**

Psalm 51:17

Is It That Easy? *Yes!*

He will deliver his soul
from going into the pit,
and his life shall see the light.

Job 33:27-28

Is It That Easy? *Yes!*

**He that covereth his sins
shall not prosper:
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Is It That Easy? *Yes!*

**Let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts:
and let him return unto the LORD,
and he will have mercy upon him;
and to our God,
for he will abundantly pardon.**

Isaiah 55:7

Look at the Examples!

**MANASSEH humbled himself greatly ...
and was put back on the throne of Judah!**

Look at the Examples!

**PETER wept bitterly ...
and led the apostles and church!**

Look at the Examples!

DAVID prayed Psalm 51 ...
and was God's favorite all time!

Look at the Examples!

**ZACCHAEUS promised restitution ...
and had lunch with Jesus commending him!**

Look at the Examples!

**A SINNER WOMAN washed Jesus' feet ...
and had Jesus defend and praise her to Simon!**

Look at the Examples!

**A THIEF confessed sins and honored Jesus ...
to hear Jesus promise eternal life with Him!**

Real Repentance Is a Gift!

In meekness instructing those
that oppose themselves;
if God peradventure will give them
repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;
And that they may recover themselves
out of the snare of the devil,
who are taken captive by him at his will.

II Timothy 2:25-26

Real Repentance Is Different!

**For godly sorrow
worketh repentance to salvation
not to be repented of:
but the sorrow of the world
worketh death.**

II Corinthians 7:10

Real Repentance Is Drastic!

For behold this selfsame thing,
that ye sorrowed after a godly sort,
what carefulness it wrought in you,
yea, what clearing of yourselves,
yea, what indignation,
yea, what fear,
yea, what vehement desire,
yea, what zeal,
yea, what revenge!

II Corinthians 7:11a

Real Repentance Works!

**In all things
ye have approved yourselves
to be clear in this matter.**

II Corinthians 7:11b

Godly Sorrow that Fully Clears!

Carefulness!

Clearing of yourself!

Indignation!

Fear!

Vehement Desire!

Zeal!

Revenge!

How Fast Does God Run?

**And David said unto Nathan,
I have sinned against the LORD.
And Nathan said unto David,
The LORD also hath put away thy sin;
thou shalt not die.**

II Samuel 12:13

How Long Does It Take?

**And he said unto Jesus,
Lord, remember me
when thou comest into thy kingdom.
And Jesus said unto him,
Verily I say unto thee,
To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.**

Luke 23:42-43

Can I Still Amount to Anything?

- **David continued as God's favorite of all time!**
- **Josiah became one of the top four all-time kings!**
- **Peter, in days, led the apostles, took gospel to the Gentiles, and wrote two epistles with his name!**
- **Four sinful women made the genealogy of our Lord – Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, and Bathsheba!**

What If More Sins than One?

- **DAVID ... aggravated adultery and murder!**
- **But also polygamy, numbered Israel, murderous anger at Nabal, moved Ark wrong, and bad father!**
- **PETER ... denied Jesus with oaths and cursing the night of His greatest need after promising loyalty!**
- **But also played the hypocrite at Paul's home church in Antioch of Syria for a public rebuke!**

Are There Any Warnings?

- Repentance is more than temporary lip service!
- Elect do not use this gospel offer for license to sin!
- We do not chase scorners ... so show some **R** !
- God does not wait forever ... He can hide from you or judge you (Pr 29:1; Is 55:6; Rev 2:21)!
- We must honor **R** like God, or we get torment!

You can ALWAYS start over!

**Our God is the God of Second
Chances ... and Third Chances
... and more with Repentance!**

**Full joy and peace
are right around the corner!**

**The abundant life in Christ
to fill your soul with gladness
is only an  factor away!**

Do you need to repent tonight?

Do not wait!

Do not hesitate!

Do not doubt His forgiveness!

Do not doubt our forgiveness!

**We have all been forgiven
10,000 talents or more!**

**We forgive your 100 pence!
Your sins do not move us!
We will share gospel hope!**

**We have all been forgiven
10,000 talents or more!**

We also love mercy (Mic 6:8)!

We fear God (II Cor 2:10-11)!

We will forgive you!

We will help you!

I will help you!

**Full joy and peace
are right around the corner!**

**The abundant life in Christ
to fill your soul with gladness
is only an  factor away!**

God Forgave Israel by Repentance

20 Surely as a wife treacherously departeth from her husband, so have ye dealt treacherously with me, O house of Israel, saith the LORD.

21 A voice was heard upon the high places, weeping and supplications of the children of Israel: for they have perverted their way, and they have forgotten the LORD their God.

22 Return, ye backsliding children, and I will heal your backslidings. Behold, we come unto thee; for thou art the LORD our God.

Jeremiah 3:20-22

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For Further Study

- Starting Over ... <http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/starting-over.pdf>
- Forgiveness ... <http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/forgiveness-of-sins-2.pdf>
- Abundant pardon ... <http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/abundant-pardon.pdf>
- Jesus Loves Losers ... <http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/jesus-loves-losers.pdf>
- Jesus Came for Sinners ... <http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/jesus-came-for-sinners.pdf>
- Forgiven! ... <http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/forgiven.pdf>
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