

Ezra 4:15, "That search may be made in the book of the records of thy fathers: so shalt thou find in the book of the records, and know that this city is a rebellious city, and hurtful unto kings and provinces, and that they have moved sedition within the same of old time: for which cause was this city destroyed."

My prayer this morning is for every child of grace to know that they are not only cleansed by the precious blood of Jesus Christ, but also the entire record of their sin has been removed by the Lord's death on the Cross of Calvary. In the verse previously cited, it was the children of Israel of the Old Testament who returned to build the House of the Lord in Jerusalem. When the work was being done, their enemies came up against them to cause the work to cease. When the enemies of Israel saw that their effort was failing, they wrote to Artaxerxes, King of Persia, and requested that a search be made to find record of this people's wrong doings. Even though Artaxerxes had no personal quarrel with Israel, when a search was made, the record was found of their past rebellion (Ezra 4:19). Since the record was found, a charge could be made against this people. But thanks be to God, in the context of our Eternal salvation, when Jesus Christ died for His people on the cross, He not only cleansed them (Rev 1:5), but He also removed all record of their sin in heaven. Jesus Christ, by His perfect offering, has truly:

(1) Removed our sins from the memory of the Eternal Judgment Seat of God. In Hebrews 8:12 we read, "their sins and iniquities will I remember no more." I am amazed and astonished every time I read this verse of scripture that by the blood of Jesus, One who knows all things and has never been taught anything, has had His memory of our past sins removed.

(2) Removed our sins from the sight of the Eternal Judgment Seat of God. In Micah 7:19 we learn that our sins have been cast "into the depths of the sea." Several years ago, a submarine was developed that could travel to depths of the sea never traveled before. Upon its first decent, a communications operator asked the pilot what they could see? The answer was, "nothing, and thanks be to God, because this is where He cast my sins by the work of the Cross." In Isaiah 38:17, Hezekiah believed that his sins could be cast behind the Lord's back. How amazing it is that God, who is able to see all things, could cast our sin into a place where He could not see. But through the death of Christ, this has been accomplished.

(3) Removed all record of our past sins so that no search could be made to charge an elect child of God before the Eternal Judgment Seat of God. In Colossians 2:14 we read, "Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross:..." How awful would it be for a person to go to heaven, live there for a while, and then be dragged before the Eternal Judgment Seat of God, to be charged with a past rebellious sin. My mind can find no comfort in that thought. But the glorious thought of my sin, not in part, but the whole being nailed to His Cross, comforts my soul and gives me peace. Jesus Christ, according to scripture, has justified His people before His Father in heaven. By the work of the Cross, every elect child of promise stands before the Eternal Judgment Seat of the Father JUST-AS-IF-THEY-NEVER-SINNED (Justified). Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord, Oh my soul. Amen!

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