

## **Forgiven**

I have been hearing so much news about the horrendous act that took place in the town of Jasper, where some men have committed a racially motivated murder against another man. This has sickened me to know that anyone is capable of such horrible acts. How could anyone do such a thing? Imagine for a moment if God came to there jail cell in person and told one of them that He needed him to repent of his evilness and live a life of service to Him. Could God actually do that? In fact, He did. If the story sounds familiar, it is because Paul's conversion in the bible was not all that much different. Paul had been killing Christian because he was prejudice against them and what they believed. God showed Himself to Paul and asked him to repent.

This illustration really has more to do with Gods ability to forgive those of us who accept Jesus as Lord. I see and talk to lots of Christians who for what ever reason cannot forgive themselves for sins that God has already forgiven. I don't mean to say that you can sin, ask for forgiveness and continue in that sin and it's all ok.

What I mean is that we all have done some pretty bad things in our past and as Christians we have asked for forgiveness, but still do not feel cleansed by God. We can even logically and biblically know that God forgives, but does not take it to heart. God does not forgive and then take it back. God's forgiveness is like the picture we have all seen of Christ tenderly holding the lost sheep. When we seek His forgiveness, God tenderly restores us, even when we make the worst mistakes. Colossians 2:13 "And when you were dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He mad you alive together with Him, having FORGIVEN us all our transgressions.."

Be restored today!