

“The Consequence of Forgetting God”
Psalm 78:9-64

I. Because they forgot His goodness, Israel turned away from God (vs. 9-64).

A. Forgetting God is manifested by rebellion (9-11).

God blessed His people (12-16).

God’s blessings did not bring Israel’s faithfulness (17-20).

God responded to Israel’s unfaithfulness (21-31).

Israel superficially repented (32-37).

God continued to be compassionate and forgiving (38-39).

God’s showed His goodness and power to Israel (40-55).

Israel still turned away from God (56-58).

God became wrathful at Israel’s continued disobedience (59).

God brought judgment (60-64).

B. Forgetting God comes from:

1. Being ungrateful for what God has done.

2. Being self-reliant in the way we live.

(Deuteronomy 8:7-19)

II. Because God is good, there is an opportunity to return to Him.

A. We must realize our spiritual condition.

B. We must remember from where we have fallen.

C. We must genuinely repent of our sin.

(Hosea 11:3-4; Ephesians 2:1-9; Revelation 2:1-7)

Scripture References

Deuteronomy 8:7-19

⁷ For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing forth in valleys and hills; ⁸ a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive oil and honey; ⁹ a land where you will eat food without scarcity, in which you will not lack anything; a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper. ¹⁰ When you have eaten and are satisfied, you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land which He has given you. ¹¹ “Beware that you do not forget the LORD your God by not keeping His commandments and His ordinances and His statutes which I am commanding you today; ¹² otherwise, when you have eaten and are satisfied, and have built good houses and lived *in them*, ¹³ and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and gold multiply, and all that you have multiplies, ¹⁴ then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God who brought you out from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ¹⁵ He led you through the great and terrible wilderness, *with its* fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty ground where there was no water; He brought water for you out of the rock of flint. ¹⁶ In the wilderness He fed you manna which your fathers did not know, that He might humble you and that He might test you, to do good for you in the end. ¹⁷ Otherwise, you may say in your heart, ‘My power and the strength of my hand made me this wealth.’ ¹⁸ But you shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who is giving you power to make wealth, that He may confirm His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as *it is* this day. ¹⁹ It shall come about if you ever forget the LORD your God and go after other gods and serve them and worship them, I testify against you today that you will surely perish.

Ephesians 2:1-9

¹ And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, ² in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. ³ Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest. ⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), ⁶ and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; ⁹ not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Hosea 11:3-4

³ Yet it is I who taught Ephraim to walk, I took them in My arms; But they did not know that I healed them. ⁴ I led them with cords of a man, with bonds of love, And I became to them as one who lifts the yoke from their jaws; And I bent down *and* fed them.

Revelation 2:1-7

¹ “To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks among the seven golden lampstands, says this:

² ‘I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them *to be* false; ³ and you have perseverance and have endured for My name’s sake, and have not grown weary. ⁴ But I have *this* against you, that you have left your first love. ⁵ Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place—unless you

repent. ⁶ Yet this you do have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. ⁷ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the tree of life which is in the Paradise of God.'

*Unless otherwise noted, all Scriptures are from the New American Standard Bible.

*Bolded Scripture references are not in the bulletin notes, but are available in the full notes on the church website. You may access these at <https://www.firstbaptistcp.com/sermon-archive/>.