Sin Put Away

"Now once in the end of the world has He appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself" *(Hebrews 9:26).*

We can learn much about sin being put away as we read about the Feast of Unleavened Bread when the Israelites were commanded to put away all leaven from their homes (see Exodus 12:15;19).

This 'putting away' was a thorough job. The cupboards and drawers were emptied and the floors were very carefully swept in case a crumb of leaven should remain (see also Exodus 13:3-16; Leviticus 23:6-8; Deuteronomy 16:8; John 6:51; Matthew 16:6).

Spiritually speaking, leaven is a picture of sin. In the New Testament, however, sin, not leaven, was put away by the Lord Jesus. He, as it were, cleaned the house. If it had been left to us to clean our houses, we would have missed some of our hidden sins. We don't realise how great a mountain of sin and lurking darkness we accumulated during our lifetime.

Question: How did Jesus put away sin?

Answer: He put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. Hebrews 9:26.

Spurgeon says, "All your sins … every size, shape, form, hue, degree, or fashion, are altogether gone! Crimson sins, black sins, filthy sins, every sort of iniquity from your childhood until now, and right on till you enter into the rest of the Beloved; they were all taken and laid upon Christ. He made an end of them all when He offered up His great sacrifice; He has put away sin as a whole for His chosen; this is a glorious truth!"

C.H. Spurgeon: Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit: Volume 16 The Putting Away Of Sin: Sermon No. 911

If our sins have been put away, why do we then fear that we can be saved and then lost? Can Jesus lose us? If He can, then He didn't put all our sins away. If we think we can be saved and then lost, far be it from us to sing "Unto Him who loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and has made us kings and priests unto God and His Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever." (Revelation 1:5-6). Notice the words, "forever and ever!" If Christ can lose us, we need to take that passage out of the Bible.

To 'put away' means literally a disannulling, a total abolition and an annihilation of sins. Christ has done away with the sins of His people! " *The iniquities of Israel*," He says, *"shall be sought for, and there shall be none; and the sins of Judah, and they shall not be found"* (Jerimiah 50:20). To fear that we as believers could eventually perish is to look at Jesus with a heart of doubt. May we learn to endorse the words of Augustus Toplady who wrote,

"Complete atonement Thou hast made
And to the utmost farthing paid
Whate'er Thy people owed.
How then can wrath on me take place,
If sheltered in Thy righteousness
And sprinkled with Thy blood?"

May each of us know that Jesus Christ has put away our sin, all of it. We are now accepted as though we are fully righteous.

"Do you mean we are innocent?"

No! We are much more than innocent. He has clothed us in His righteousness. And, listen to this, "The gifts and calling of God are without repentance." (Romans 11:29).

The eternal God never says then unsays.

He never does then undoes.

He never gives then un-gives.

If we have been declared not guilty, then we are indeed not guilty, and no one can ever condemn us. (See Psalm 103:12).

This is wonderful! Dear believer, we can never go down into the pit of hell; God can never be so angry with us as to utterly forsake us!

We are safe!