

## **Saturday Devotional**

Growing up, my family went to visit relatives in Harrisonburg, VA, two or three weekends a year. On one trip, we had gone downtown on Saturday morning to shop. Dad parked in the municipal parking lot. We returned to our car to find a parking ticket on the window. Dad went over to the courthouse nearby to see about it. It turns out that they allowed “front end only” parking in that lot. I don’t know if there was a sign. Evidently most people knew the law and obeyed it. We, being from out of town, did not know the law. But ignorance of the law is no excuse and dad paid the fine.

Psalm 19:12 says the following: **Who can discern his errors? Forgive my hidden faults.**

These faults/sins are not hidden from others, but from ourselves. The HCSB uses the phrase “unintentional sins” in the first part of verse 12, “Who perceives his unintentional sins” (HCSB). This is in contrast to the next verse about “willful sins.”

These unintentional sins are ones we are not aware of committing. These are not willful sins. They are sins we don’t know we are committing. If we perceived of them as sins at the time, we might have made a better choice. Paul describes some such sins in Romans 1 where he points out that we fail to treat God as God in failing to acknowledge him. We then also fail to thank him for our lives.

By now you might be asking what all this has to do with Easter. Well Jesus died on Easter Friday for ALL of our sins. He did not just die for our willful sins, as bad as they are. He did not just die for the sins we know about. He died for sins we are not aware of. We have all committed the of ignoring God many times over, treating God as if he does not exist. These sins, too, Jesus died for.

The debt of gratitude we owe him is even greater than we know. Let us praise him this day for all he has done for us. Let us think about how to live for him from here on.

Let’s use the last two verses of Psalm 19 for our prayer today. **Psalm 19:13-14 (NIV)**

**Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me.**

**Then will I be blameless, innocent of great transgression.**

**May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.**

**In Jesus’ name, amen.**