

## HOW DEEP IS THE SEA??

**Text:**

***Micah 7:19: He will turn again, He will have compassion upon us; He will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.***

**Introduction:** All the continents in the world could be placed in the Pacific Ocean and there would still be 18 million miles of ocean left over. But the Pacific — even though it is the greatest — isn't the deepest, neither is the Atlantic.

According to the U.S. Navy, the deepest place is in the Philippine Sea where it is 6 ½ miles deep. At this depth, there are seven tons of pressure each square inch. The Empire State Building, one of the highest buildings in the world, is 1,248 feet high. It would take 27 of them stacked on top of each other in this spot in the ocean to reach the surface, and yet there would be 624 feet of water to spare.



Mount Everest, which has recently been conquered by man, is the world's highest mountain. Its highest point is 29,141 feet. If it were put in this deepest ocean spot, there would be nearly a mile of water above its peak.

Micah, the prophet of God, said:

***Micah 7:19: He will turn again, He will have compassion upon us; He will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.***

That's what God does for the repentant sinner. If you confess and forsake your sins, they will be cast into the depths of the sea of God's pardon.

***1 John 1:9: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.***

There are 7 tons of pressure per square inch in the ocean's deepest point. In God's ocean of pardon, there is the pressure of His divine love — all the love shown at Calvary and now in His intercessory ministry at the Father's

right hand. Once our sins are cast in the sea of His pardon, the pressure of His love keeps them down and subdued in the depths of the sea. Ask God for His mercy and pardon, and your sins will be cast into the sea of God's forgetfulness. **I think the Lord must have also placed a sign there saying: "NO FISHING".**



A woman asked her husband: "Will you please forgive me for the wrong I have done you?" His reply was: "Yes, I guess I'll have to, but I can never forget it." When God forgives, He forgets.

**God wished to amplify this fact, so He moved upon David to write:**

***Psalms 103: 8-12:***

***<sup>8</sup> The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.***

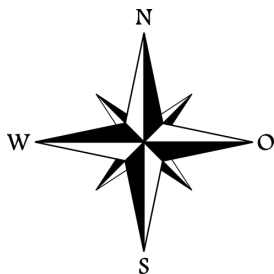
***<sup>9</sup> He will not always chide: neither will He keep His anger forever.***

***<sup>10</sup> He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.***

***<sup>11</sup> For as the Heaven is high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward them that fear Him.***

***<sup>12</sup> As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us.***

In 1909, Admiral Peary discovered the North Pole. In 1911, Amundsen discovered the South Pole. But no one has yet discovered an east or west pole. North to south can be measured; but east and west cannot. Therefore, there is no measure to God's pardon, for it is limitless.



Isn't it wonderful that God should express His pardoning love in terms like this? Have you experienced His forgiveness through the Lord Jesus Christ? Then listen to:

***Romans 10:13: For whosoever shall call upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved.***

Ask anybody who God has given this wonderful treatment to their sins, and they will tell you God can set us free from the bondage of our wicked heart. Every sinner is held prisoner against his will. If turning over a new

leaf, or if New Year's resolutions could free us from the misery and slavery of our moral defilement, then this world would be the cleanest place ever. Without God's intervention, it is impossible.

How often has the drunkard in a sober moment cursed his habit?



The dope fiend screaming for a fix wished he were dead and no longer in torment. How often the runaway wife, the youth playing harlot grieved over her trail of shameful and hollow living, and wished she were clean again?

How often the prodigal son longs to be back home, but is not courageous enough to face the family dressed in rags and tatters?

Israel lost her way and became polluted. The preacher, Micah, exhorts them what to do to be cleaned up. He said first REPENT, and return to God. That's the only way for God to accept us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. He reassures them of God's great mercy, and reminds them of His former pity and compassion on their forefathers.

In His faith building message, it is said, "**God will turn again.**" Without that assurance, we are all on death row.

Next, the preacher, Micah, tells them — as recorded in **Micah 7:19** — God's message of what God will do: ***He will subdue our iniquities and cast all their sins in the depths of the sea.*** What we can't do for ourselves, God only can do: SUBDUED and BURY. That is what the Almighty is prepared to do for you, sinner, bound by the cords of iniquities. You need God to subdue your sins. They are subduing you, making you a slave, making you serve the devil against your will, thus robbing you of God's provided freedom.

**Why do we burn that incense day and night to a tobacco god?**

**Why do you perform like an idiot, with thick speech and unsteady walk to the alcohol god?**

**Why do you snatch money from your children's mouths to buy lottery tickets for your gambling demon?**

You know you're hooked. You need this Word of God: He will subdue our

iniquities. Yes He will; many can attest to that. God can break that proud tyrant in your life.

Sin brings strong guilt feelings and torments the mind. It is a transgression of God's law.

**Sin brings strong guilt feelings and torments the mind.**

***1 John 3:4: Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.***

Yes, you are a fugitive now from divine justice. Always nervous, never at rest. Paul says it is like living under a curse.

***Galatians 3:10: For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the Book of the Law to do them.***

We must either be pardoned or punished. Micah, the preacher, tells us we can be pardoned. He will have compassion on us.

**We must either be pardoned or punished.**

Hosea, another great Israelite evangelist, put it this way:

***Hosea 12:2: The LORD hath also a controversy with Judah, and will punish Jacob according to his ways; according to his doings will He recompense him.***

The New Testament is no less assuring:

***Romans 8:1: There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.***

You have a personal right to come to the Priest of Calvary, make your confession to Him, and receive total forgiveness and pardon. God will lift the guilt, break the shackles of your sins, and set you free.



We are told Jesus is the Mediator of the new covenant. His blood was shed for you with an everlasting covenant. He will make you perfect in

every good work in order to do His will, and will work in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight through Jesus Christ, to Whom be glory for ever and ever.

***Hebrews 12:24: And to Jesus the Mediator of the New Covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.***

***Hebrews 13:20-21:***

***20 Now the God of Peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that Great Shepherd of the sheep, through the Blood of the Everlasting Covenant,***

***21 Make you perfect in every good work to do His Will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to Whom be Glory for ever and ever. Amen.***

The guilt feelings are lifted because the sentence of sin is lifted. Jesus is God, the High Priest of forgiveness. He has won the authority to impart righteousness to you on the basis of your faith in His finished work on the Cross of Calvary. He will cast your sins into the depths of the sea. There is nothing left to be done. You can walk away from here a free man or free woman tonight.

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Notice carefully how preacher Micah puts it: *ALL their SINS* — *Everything* is forgiven and forgotten. New Testament declares the same:

***Acts 13:39: And by Him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the Law of Moses.***

Do you feel hopeless? Forsaken? Is satan telling you you're too great a sinner? You've gone too far wrong? You're too deep in sin for the grace of God to reach you? He is lying to you to keep you as his prisoner. Note the text again. *The song writer wrote: Don't turn Him away, He has come back to your heart again although you've gone astray.* He must come to us, for there is no salvation from sin without that



fact and act.

Only God can forgive sin and save the sinner. No human agency can accomplish that. None else can break the cords of our iniquities and sin's dominion. Every sinner is captive. All weapons of self-defense have been confiscated by the enemy, satan. Escape from satan.

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Paul describes our plight thus:

***Titus 3:3: For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another.***

***2 Corinthians 4:3: But if our Gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:***

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