**God’s Ability to *Remember* and *Forget***

**(and Ours compared to His)**

God is: **Omniscient,** or *all knowing;* **Omnipotent,** or *all powerful;* and, **Omnipresent,** or *all present.*  As such He doesn’t *accidentally forget* or need *reminding* as we humans sometimes do*,* cf. Gen.8:1, *remembered Noah;*  9:15-16, *remember the covenant* by the *bow in the cloud*; 19:29, *remembered Abraham* and *spared Lot;* 30:32, *remembered Rachel, and gave heed to her,* and *opened her womb;* (the Hebrew word *zakar* from which *“remember”* is translated in these passages means to *call to mind* with a *focus of responding* or *taking appropriate action,* cf. Ex.6:5). Thus, when God *“remembers,”* it is not because He has previously *forgotten,* but rather than His *attention* has been *focused* to *respond* or *act.* Given these things, let us also consider that…

**God *remembers* things we may *forget,* and *forgets* things we can’t seem to help but *remember:***

1. **We need to *remember* when God *heals* us (*physically* and *spiritually),* Luke 17:11-19 and 2Pet.1:5-9;**

**Because God will not *forget,* 2Pet.1:10-11.**

1. **We need to *remember* (*call to mind with a focus on responding* or *taking appropriate* action) when our brother has something against us, Matt.5:23-25a;**

**Because God will not *forget*, Matt.5:25b-26.**

1. **We need to *remember* to *bridle our tongues,* Jas.1:25-26; 3:2-12; Eph.4:29; 5:3-4;**

**Because God will not *forget,* Eph.5:-6; Matt.12:36-37.**

1. **Both you and the recipients may *forget* good deeds that you have done, Heb.10:32-35; 13:7;**

**But God will *remember,* Heb.6:10-12.**

1. **But God also *forgets* better than we do- He will completely *forget* our past sins when we repent and turn from them, Ezk.18:21-23; Heb.8:12; 10:17;**

**Even when we *can’t* or *won’t forget* them, Phil.3:13; Luke 9:62.**

1. **And He *forgets* our *former righteousness* when we turn from it *to iniquity,* Ezk.18:24-32;**

**Even when we *remember* (and *cling to* and *trust*) our *former righteousness while living in sin,* Rev.2:2-5.**

**Conclusions:**

* **All *too often* perhaps, our *memory* is like our *hearing- all too selective.* We *remember* things we ought to *forget,* and *forget* things we ought to *remember.***
* **But God’s *memory* (also like His *hearing!*) is *perfect-* He *forgets* nothing He wants to *remember,* and *remembers* nothing He chooses to *forget!***