

## Undo

Ponder: What can and cannot be undone.

Scripture: "Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented" (Lk. 16:25, NKJV).

I'm tech challenged, so it's no surprise that I have issues with my word processor and other programs in the suite. One feature I really like, however, is a little curved arrow in one corner of the screen that lets me "undo" a recent action. If I accidentally delete a sentence or crop a picture too closely, one mouse click puts it back like it was. Whew!

Most areas of life, however, don't offer the "undo" option. When I've spoken a vulgar word, I can't un-say it. I can regret it, apologize for it, resolve not to do it again, and even be forgiven for it. But I can't un-say it.

King David couldn't undo his adultery with Bathsheba nor his murder of her husband, Uriah. He felt guilty over it and finally confessed it, receiving God's pardon. But Uriah was still dead, and Bathsheba was still pregnant with David's child.

The rich man in torment couldn't undo his selfish neglect of Lazarus. Who can doubt that he regretted it and would have given anything for an opportunity to rectify his error? But it was too late!

As He spoke of the Day of Judgment, Jesus warned: "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you: depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'" (Matt. 7:22-23). Calling Jesus "Lord" and doing great works isn't enough. We must do "the will of My Father in heaven" (v. 21). There will be no opportunity to undo disobedience.

Nevertheless, our situation is not hopeless! While we can't undo sins, we can repent, confess, and be forgiven by complying with God's terms of pardon. He has pledged, "I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more" (Heb. 8:12).

Hymn: "Washed In The Blood Of Calvary"

Prayer: Father, while we cannot undo sin, we give You our praise and thanks for the blood of Jesus that cleanses us. In His name, Amen.