**THOUGHT – WILLIAM SLOAN**

William Sloan was born in Dalry, North Ayrshire in 1838. In 1876 he moved to the Faroe Islands as a missionary and took with him the good news of Jesus Christ. His work is one of the great success stories of the Gospel as many islanders from the Faroes became followers of Jesus Christ.

Sloan’s early history is interesting. In his teens he moved to Lanarkshire for work and there he became a Christian in unusual circumstances. He had begun to attend meetings where he heard teaching from the Bible and he started to be troubled about the problem of sin in his life. One particular Sunday evening he had a sleepless night as he wrestled with the issue of his own guilt before God.

The solution came the following morning. As he worked in the shop where he was an assistant, an expression from Psalm 103 came into his mind – ‘who forgives ALL your sins.’ William Sloan suddenly realised that God had made provision for sin and its forgiveness in the work of Jesus Christ when He died on the cross. All he needed to do was to rest on what Christ had done for him. That same message is relevant for us today because there is still forgiveness when we ask God for it, and He forgives ALL our sins!

Many conditions in our world are very different to those of the young William Sloan, but the problem of guilt still troubles many. Our solution is found in the Bible quotation of Psalm 103:3, ‘who forgives ALL your sins.’