

**Text:** Psalm 32

**Meaning:** David exhorted Israel to rejoice over forgiveness

**Big Idea:** We should rejoice that our sins are forgiven

**Objective:** I want the hearers to rejoice in their salvation

**Theme:**

### THE BLESSING OF REPENTANCE

#### Background – PS 51 and 32 – David and Bathsheba

Psalm 51 and Psalm 32 go together. The background for these two psalms is **2 Sam. 11–12**. David lusted after his neighbor's wife, committed adultery, made the husband drunk, had him killed, and then covered the whole affair for at least a year. He was not a youth when he fell into these sins; he was a mature man, ruling over a great kingdom. David thought he had successfully abated the reckoning for his sin, but he was approached and confronted by the prophet Nathan who declared, "thou are the man!" Don't you know that surely your sins will find you out! David now had a choice: would he humble himself before God and the prophet and repent, or would he choose pride and self-justification and completely destroy his life and witness.

***Psalm 51 was David's prayer of confession, and Ps. 32 his song of forgiveness.***

Just like David we are faced with a choice – what will we do with our sin?

**READ Psalm 32**

**QUESTION 1 WHAT IS SIN?**

**SIN IS DELIBERATE CONFLICT WITH GOD**

#### ***Transgression – Rebellion***

Sin is direct rebellion against God. Scripture tells us that our sin makes us at enmity with God, this means we set ourselves up as

enemies of the cross of Christ when we choose to live with unrepentant sin in our lives. Rebellion.

#### ***Sin – Missing the Mark***

The word in the Hebrew is like an archer shooting his arrow at a target and he misses. God's Word, the Bible, is the target. When we live in disobedience to His Word we miss the target. Sin is not me falling short of man's expectations, sin is falling short of God's expectations. Sin is living in direct contradiction to God.

IF THE BIBLE CONTRADICTS MY LIFE, ITS NOT THE BIBLE THAT NEEDS TO CHANGE, I NEED TO CHANGE.

#### ***Iniquity – Crookedness***

ROMANS 4:7-8 – Paul quotes these first two verses as an example of justification by faith. David was declared righteous by repentance of his sin and faith in the Lord, not by works of righteousness

**QUESTION 2 WHY SHOULD I DEAL WITH SIN IN MY LIFE?**

**ANSWER: SIN HAS DEVASTATING CONSEQUENCES**

The Bible is God's love letter to us, His best for life. His commands are simply invitations to grace.

SIN ALWAYS TAKES YOU FARTHER THAN YOU WANT TO DO – MAKES YOU STAY LONGER THAN YOU WANT TO STAY – AND MAKES YOU PAY MUCH MORE THAN YOU EVER WANTED TO PAY

GIVE THE DEVIL AN INCH AND HE WILL TAKE A FOOT, GIVE HIM A FOOT AND HE WILL TAKE A YARD, GIVE HIM A YARD AND HE WILL TAKE A MILE, GIVE HIM A MILE AND HE WILL TAKE YOUR LIFE

#### ***Physical Consequences – bones wasted away***

David says he aged more in that year of sin than he did any other time. Some who go to the physician to take care of their symptoms

need to go to the Great Physician to take care of their sins. Not all sickness is the result of sin but unconfessed sin in your life will have physical consequences as a result

### ***Emotional Consequences – groaning***

David says he groaned all day long. David had lusted, lied, and led his army to essentially murder Bathsheba's husband. He did everything he could to rid all the consequences of this situation; yet the people close to the situation knew what really happened. People in the Kingdom heard about Bathsheba being pregnant with his child and how they were together now. So, David's sin quickly turned into bitterness, anger, and rage as he had to still deal with that which he thought would just go away.

Beloved, sin doesn't just go away. Sin that stays in our life leads to anger and bitterness. Sin makes you BITTER not BETTER.

BITTERNESS IS AN ACID THAT EATS ITS OWN CONTAINER. ANGER IS OUR EMOTIONAL RESPONSE TO UNFAVORABLE CIRCUMSTANCES IN OUR LIVES. Anxiety and depression are emotional battles that many people face, but ANGER AND BITTERNESS, UNFORGIVENESS AND RAGE ARE SINS TO BE REPENTED OF.

### ***Spiritual Consequences – God's Heavy Hand***

When unrepentant sin remains in our lives there is a heaviness in our heart. Shame and guilt can take over our mind and paralyze our worship and service to the Lord. Our intimacy with Christ is broken.

### **1 Thessalonians 5:19 – Do not QUENCH the Holy Spirit.**

QUENCH – means to extinguish. Sin will extinguish the fire of God in your life. Our God is a consuming fire and sin will put the fire out! It will extinguish your passion for God!

### **QUESTION 3 HOW SHOULD I DEAL WITH SIN IN MY LIFE?**

**ANSWER: SIN MUST BE DECISIVELY CONFESSED**

David talks here about his genuine confession of sin.

Confession is not my embarrassed response to getting caught. Confession is my humble response to being taught. It is my humble response to the conviction of the Holy Spirit. Its Godward first.

**Psalm 51:4 David prays** – Against you and you only have I sinned How could David say he had sinned only against God when he had committed adultery and in essence murder?

TRUE CONFESSION IS FIRST VERTICAL, THEN IT WORKS ITS WAY HORIZONTAL. The reason some continue in sin that hurts others is because they haven't come in agreement with the Lord that they are in sin.

**David lost all sense of SELF-AWARENESS** while trying to cover up his wrongdoing. He was unable to see what his actions were doing to others around him and how they were negatively affecting his life and leadership. When you don't REALIZE OR RECOGNIZE YOUR SIN YOU DON'T SYMPATHIZE WITH THE PEOPLE BEING HARMED BY IT.

### **2 STEPS TO TRUE CONFESSION**

#### ***Step 1 - Acknowledge***

Psalm 51:3 David says "For I KNOW my transgressions". Same word in the Hebrew.

To acknowledge my sin means to STOP IGNORING MY FAILURES.

REPENTANCE – Change of mind first - I go to God in prayer and agree with him about my sin and ask for His forgiveness.

#### ***Step 2 - Uncover***

The cross has two beams: vertical and horizontal. Once I have taken my sin vertically and gotten right with the Lord, I now must go to man and make it right. This is a part of my prayer of confession – Lord, help me to say, “I’m sorry.” Help me to reconcile and repair this relationship. Lord, give me the strength to make things right here. We don’t ATONE for our sin, only Jesus did that. But we must OWN our sin – admit it and seek reconciliation. I can’t FIX IT, but I must FACE IT.

Sin we COVER the Lord will UNCOVER. Sin we UNCOVER the Lord COVERS

### **Proverbs 28:13**

Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.

### **QUESTION 4 WHAT IS GOD’S RESPONSE TO MY SIN JESUS RESPONDS WITH DETERMINED COMPASSION**

This is the blessing of the gospel. David breaks out in praise when he stops to consider what the gospel means. He explains what the atonement of Christ on the cross means here prior to Jesus ever dying for us.

**1 John 2:2** – Jesus is our propitiation

PROPIATION – SATISFACTION

JESUS BECAME OUR SUBSTITUTE ON THE CROSS AND THEREBY SATISFIED THE WRATH OF GOD TOWARD US AND MET ALL THE RIGHTEOUS DEMANDS OF GOD ON OUR BEHALF.

### ***Forgiveness – to lift, carry, or take away***

Jesus lifts the burden of our sin and takes it away. He casts our sin as far as the east is from the west and chooses to no longer hold our sin against us. In Jesus our failures don’t define us forgiveness does!

### ***Covering – Jesus’s blood covers my sin***

When we confess our sin to Christ and call on his forgiveness we are clothed in His righteousness, so now the Father no longer sees our dirty unkept state but he sees the righteous garment of His own Son

### ***Counting – not guilty***

In Christ the certificate of debt stacked against us is cancelled out and we are now justified before God. Justification is a legal term which means we are now declared not guilty and our spiritual record is expunged of all our past wrongdoing and even the guilt of our future sins is done away with

### ***Protection – His steadfast love surrounds us***

In Christ we are protected even from the full extent of the consequences of our sins. God, in His grace, intervenes on our behalf and redeems and restores us, He bestows blessing and not cursing

***David finishes the chapter by declaring a song of praise! Be glad and rejoice in the Lord! How can we not praise our God who has bestowed this kind of love and grace on us?!***

**MOVE TO LORD’S SUPPER TIME**