

What to do When You Don't Know What to do With Your Sin!

Psalm 32

Rom. 12:18 – ***"If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all."***

It's not always easy to be at peace with all the people in our lives is it?

It's not always easy to be at peace with ourselves either!

What do we do when sin wreaks havoc in our lives and in our relationships?

A few examples in my life from just the past 2 weeks.

Again, the Psalmist puts things in perspective for us – God's perspective!

The destructive power of sin, on God's anointed king, had been revealed.

Psalm 51 was David's response, & that response led God to call Him ***"a man after His own heart."*** David discovered that the only way to make peace with himself & with those around him was to first make peace with God!

David confessed His sin & God heard his prayer, ***"for the Lord does not delight in sacrifice or burnt offerings, but in a broken & contrite heart!"***

David received mercy from God. His sin was forgiven, and his relationship restored! Psalm 32 is the follow-up to David's Psalm 51 experience.

Remember that In Psalm 51:13, David told God that He would do something if God would only restore unto him the joy of His salvation. He said, ***"I will teach transgressors Your ways, & sinners will return to You."***

Hear these words of Psalm 32 with the perspective of instruction in mind!

This Psalm starts off the same way as Psalm 1, but the message is very different. David had failed miserably, but he learned that God's blessings are not solely dependent on our good performance!

Psalm 1:1-2 is an aspirational goal that none of us can ever fully realize.

But David tells us that God's blessing, freedom from sin & its effects, is also for those whose transgressions & iniquities are forgiven - **Psalm 32:1-2**

Have we transgressed God's Law? Have we sinned against God & man?
Have we missed the mark? Has iniquity corrupted the image of God in us?

But if we are not willing to deal with that, then our hearts are not ready to receive the blessing of God that comes through forgiveness & reconciliation!

Receiving forgiveness is transformative, but so is hardening our hearts!
"For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day & night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer" – Vs. 3-4

When sin wreaks havoc in our lives is not this our experience as well?
Unconfessed, unreconciled sin in our lives will weigh us down & destroy us!

David's response was to turn to God – ***"I acknowledged my sin to you, & I did not cover my iniquity; I said 'I confess my transgressions to the Lord,' and you forgave the iniquity of my sin."*** – Vs. 5

As a result, his transgressions were forgiven, his sin was covered, & his iniquity was no longer counted against him.

How freeing/liberating/blessed/peaceful! If God can deal with David's sin in such ways, how should that effect the way we deal with our sin before God?

This changed the trajectory of David's life, & he wants his life experience to instruct us in the way we ought to deal with the sin in our lives as well!

David proclaims in Vs. 6 - ***"Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found..."***

God has offered us a place to turn to with our sin. And in turning to Him we too can experience what David did– a safe haven, a refuge, a fresh start.

"You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance." – Vs. 7

The remaining verses (8-11) are the fulfillment of David's Psalm 51 vow.
"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eyes upon you. Be not like a horse or mule, without understanding which must be curbed with bit and bridle..."

David's plea/instruction is to not be a stubborn a\$\$/mule with your sin.

Confess it & receive God's blessed forgiveness! Stop living in misery over falling short of Psalm 1:1-2 & start receiving relief by living into Psalm 32:1-2

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