

The Joy of God's Forgiveness | Psalms 32 and 51 | 5/22/16

- Introduction
 - This Psalm was written by David after he the big failure in his life that he is well remembered by.
 - David had sinned against God by lustfully desiring a married woman (Bathsheba) and had her husband killed in battle.
 - This was certainly not David's greatest moment.
 - However, this was not the end of David nor did God remove himself from him.
 - David being a Christian bore great guilt and conviction for the sin that he had committed.
 - This Psalm is one that David wrote expressing his heart in how he felt after God had forgiven his his sins.
 - David confessed to God and admitted is mistakes and asked for God's forgiveness.
 - God came through with the forgiveness and this Psalm speaks to the joy that David now feels because of the mercy of God.
 - This Psalm is a companion to Psalm 51
 - Psalm 51 is where David first confessed of his sin to God.
 - Psalm 32 we see a follow up on what David has been experiencing as a result of that confession and forgiveness by God.
- Even though we we have great sins, there is joy in the forgiveness that God gives to those who truly repent. | Psalm 32:1-2
 - **Read Psalm 32:1-2**
 - The opening two verses David makes it clear that he has felt the joy of forgiveness from God after he had confessed his sins.
 - David has great joy in knowing the truth that God does forgive sins.
 - In this there are 4 different Hebrew words used that designate various forms of sin.
 - Pasha – transgression | The idea of rebellion or deliberate sin.
 - Hata'ah – sin | The more common used Hebrew word for sin meaning to do wrong, go astray or to miss the mark.
 - Awon – iniquity/sin | A deed that incurs guilt or punishment due to guilt. It may focus on the deed or actions and also the consequences. To intentionally act against God's will.
 - Remiyyah – deceit | Falsehood or hypocrisy
 - All of these words can be lumped into the category of sin because it is displeasing to God.
 - David gives us various words with different meanings to depict sin, because sin can be described in so many ways.
 - Now of course the encompassing definition of sin is to say or do anything that pleases God. But man can sin God in many different ways.
 - Unfortunately, we find many ways to sin against God.
 - These verses also give us a great sign of hope, because of the forgiveness that God provides.
 - In this passage there are 3 Hebrew words used to describe different aspects of God's forgiveness.
 - Ns – forgiven | Our sins are forgiven and "lifted up" from the person.
 - Kasha – covered | To hide or cover something offensive, which is our sins.
 - Yahsob lo – counts no/ not charge | Sins will not be charged against the Christian who is truly repentant. To be considered innocent.
 - It is these words of truth that give David great joy, knowing that while his sins were evil and detestable before God. That He is faithful and righteous to forgive him of his sins.

- 1 John 1:9
 - “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”
- Romans 8:1
 - “Therefore, no condemnation now exists for those in Christ Jesus, because the Spirit’s law of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death.”
- Even though this passage of Scripture was many years ahead of David the truth of God and His character of forgiveness was the same.
- **The OT is often depicted as book about a vengeful God, but it is also equally full of a God that shows love and mercy upon those who put their faith and trust in Him.**
- Salvation by grace has always been part of God’s plan.
 - This passage of Scripture is quoted by Paul in the New Testament when he reveals that we are saved by grace and not by our works.
 - Romans 4:1-8
 - Paul then continues the plan of salvation by showing that it is through faith.
 - Romans 4:13
 - It is only by the grace of God that He forgives our sins and that we do not have to work to receive His forgiveness.
- **David has told us of how God forgives various forms of sin and multiple ways he expressed God’s forgiveness. What do think this means for the modern day Christian who sins?**
- The physical and mental pain of unconfessed sin | Psalm 32:3-4
 - **Read Psalm 32:3-4**
 - **These verses speak to the very real effects of unconfessed sin in our lives, the guilt that we have and the great conviction that the Holy Spirit puts on our hearts.**
 - Unconfessed sin does not remove one’s salvation.
 - It is my belief and that of New Site Baptist Church that our unconfessed sins to God will not affect your salvation.
 - If you have sinned against God and you die in an accident you not removed from the hands of Jesus and thrown into Hell. Scripture is quite clear on this.
 - However, there are other denominations to do believe this is the case.
 - That if you die with unrepentant sins that depending on the severity you risk going to Hell.
 - **While as a Christian your salvation is secured there are consequences for us when we have unrepentant sins. These can be of the heart, emotionally and also physically.**
 - **It also affects our walk and relationship with God.**
 - The weight of unconfessed sins and God’s conviction.
 - **When David transgressed against God (deliberate sin) he did not immediately repent.**
 - If we follow the story of David’s it was a year’s time before his confession.
 - 2 Samuel 11:26, 12:13
 - This lack of repentance to David was not without consequences.
 - The pains that he describes here were very likely felt over the course of the entire year before his confessions.
 - David suffered physically because of his unconfessed sin.
 - When David speaks of his brittle bones and groaning all day long this is not just figurative.

- This is quite physical, he is having physical hurts because of the weight of the conviction upon him.
 - **This does NOT mean that if you do not confess your sins that God will strike you down with a disease or that all of your ailments are because of sin.**
 - But the weight of God's conviction can be felt.
- The longer he held onto these sins it was likely the weight became heavier and heavier.
- He was not OK spiritually or physically because of it.
- This is especially true for the Christian.
 - While this is also felt by the lost, it is especially true for the Christian.
 - The Christian who has the Holy Spirit living within them, who knows what is right and what is wrong is much more susceptible to the pains of sin.
 - **God is not going to let you "forget"**
- **This is no different for the Christian today, God will bring conviction so that we will repent and then he will gladly forgive us.**
- The hand of God was heavy upon David, which is the conviction that all sinners feel.
 - **The true source for the physical repercussions of David's sin comes from God through conviction.**
 - David describes it as having God's heavy hand upon him both day and night.
 - This says that it was never ending, that all day everyday he could feel the weight of God convicting him and reminding him of his transgressions.
 - God did not want David to forget of his sins against Him, He wanted David to bring these to confession, to repent of them.
 - Confession and repentance is God's desired goal, not pain and suffering.
 - The reason why God brings conviction upon our hearts is not because He enjoys being miserable. He does not have joy in watching us suffer in our punishment.
 - God brings conviction because He desires our confession and our repentance.
 - God sole reason is so that we will bring our sins before God and He will forgive us of them.
 - 1 John 1:9
 - "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."
 - God wants us to turn away from our sins to never do them again. This is the holy life that He has called us all to.
 - This conviction that we Christians feel that make us feel the weight of our sin is actually God's grace.
 - We wouldn't normally think of pains or a heavy heart as being a good thing, but in the case of conviction for sins it is.
 - It is by God's grace that He lets us know that we have sinned that we have wronged God in some way.
 - If He did not do this then we would have a more difficult time knowing what is right and wrong in the eyes of God.
 - It is God's way of leading us and guiding us on the right path to strive to be the obedient Christians that wants us all do be.

- Have you personally felt the weight of conviction on your heart? Have you felt the impact of this conviction physically?
 - The joy that comes from our confession | Psalm 32:5
 - ***Read Psalm 32:5***
 - David has now experienced the great joy that comes when a Christian has confessed their sins to God. It brings relief.
 - God has taken away the guilt of his sin.
 - Sin brings great guilt upon the person and it weights very heavily.
 - God will remove this guilt because it HAS BEEN FORGIVEN.
 - Not that He is giving is OK for our sin, but He has certainly forgiven it and He will never remember it anymore.
 - So of God does not remember our sin then neither should we be weighed down with the guilt.
 - David’s confession
 - Looking at Samuel 2 and Psalm 51, let’s take a closer look at the confession that David made to God for his sins.
 - One year after David’s sin against God, Samuel is sent to David to give him a message.
 - That message is from God telling David that God was not at all happy with the grave sin that David committed.
 - 2 Samuel 7-10
 - David then did something that he should have done a very long time ago, he acknowledged his sin before God and he was truly sorry in his heart.
 - 2 Samuel 13a
 - “David responded to Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD...”
 - This was in contrast to Saul when Nathan confronted Saul for his sins he just gave excuses.
 - But David he was truly repentant in heart for what he had done.
 - God forgave David
 - Not only did David repent in his heart but God forgave him.
 - The Lord has taken away his sin as David will describe in more detail in Psalm 51
 - David’s confession and desire for renewal from his sins.
 - After this meeting with Nathan David wrote Psalm 51 which he goes into great detail how he feels about his sin against God.
 - Wash away my sin | Psalm 51:1-3
 - Read Psalms 51:1-3
 - David asked for God to cleans him from his sins.
 - David acknowledges that he has sinned against God and his punishment is just. | Psalm 51:4
 - Read Psalm 51:4
 - David recognizes that God is who he sinned against and the punishment that God gave him was JUST.
 - Original sin | Psalm 51:5
 - Read Psalm 51:5
 - This is Scriptural truth for our original sin that we are born with, the sin that Paul speaks of in Romans that we inherited.
 - David understands that God desires our integrity | Psalm 51:6-7
 - Read Psalm 51:6-7

- David understand what kind of a man God wanted him to be.
 - God desired integrity and holy living which was not what David had done.
 - He also requested God to wash his sins so he would be whiter than snow.
- David desires a renewed heart and spirit | Psalm 51:8-10
 - Read Psalm 51:8-10
 - David desires to have a heart that is pure and clean in the eyes of God.
- David asks for God to restore his joy and to remove the guilt of his sins | Psalm 51:11-15
 - Read Psalm 51:11-15
 - David understands that his guilt was brought on by his sin and only God can remove it.
- The sacrifice of a broken spirit | Psalms 51:16-17
 - Read Psalm 51:16-17
 - God values the broken spirit or heart of the Christian as proof that we are truly repentant.
 - This is how God knows when our “sorry” is real when our heart is humbled.
- **How would you describe the joy that you have felt upon your confession of sins to God?**
- Closing
 - There is great joy for the Christian who has confessed their sins and received forgiveness from God.
 - God is a merciful and loving God and we should never forget it.
 - Psalm 32:10-11