

“DAVID”

Text: Psalm 32:1-11
Subject: How To Experience The Joy Of Sins Forgiven

Introduction

(Psalm 32 Answers Some Amazing Questions)

- #1. What is the root cause of misery and what is the root cause of happiness?
- #2. How does forgiveness of sin bring relief to a heavy heart?
- #3. Why is it foolish to be like the horse or the mule in (v. 9)?
- #4. How can a former liar, manipulator, adulterer and murderer shout for joy and rejoice in the Lord?
- #5. Why is the communion table such a symbol and reminder and producer of the joy of the Lord?

Question: Pastor, why are you God enthused about Psalm 32?

Answer: Because for 29 years I've been viewing this Psalm the wrong way:

- ◆ I used to think Psalm 32 came before Psalm 51
- ◆ I used to think Psalm 32 was written when David was confronted by the prophet Nathan.
- ◆ But, Psalm 51 is David's great repentance of his sin after Nathan's rebuke.
- ◆ In Psalm 51 David repents and prays this way:
 - “Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity” “Cleanse me from my sin”
 - “Have mercy upon me O God” “Against thee only have I sinned”
 - “Blot out mine iniquities” “Create in me a clean heart O God”

(In Other Words)

- ◆ Psalm 51, came first when David repented out of anguish of soul.
- ◆ And Psalm 32, was composed after his deliverance from his troubled state of mind.

(In Other Words)

- ◆ Psalm 32, was written, after David recovered his inward peace.
- ◆ Psalm 32 was written, after David arose out of spiritual distress.
- ◆ Psalm 32 was written, to reveal the celebration of happiness that comes to those who experience justifying grace.
- ◆ Psalm 32 was written, to show why we have cause to be glad, rejoice and shout with joy to the Lord.

Question: How does the Lord put a song in our heart?

Question: What's the root cause of a joyful person?

Question: How is it possible to shout to the Lord with the voice of triumph?

(God Has The Answer In 3 Simple Words)

I. **Word #1 Is “Forgiveness” (vs. 1, 2)**

Fact: The Psalm begins with a great word (“Blessed”)

Question: What does the word “Blessed” mean?

Answer: It is a Hebrew plural word that expresses the highest exuberance of joy.

Question: Why do we have the highest exuberance of joy?

Answer: Because the 3 words of failure, are matched by the 3 acts of God.

Question: What are the 3 words of failure?

Answer: In (Vs. 1 & 2) #1. Transgression #2. Sin #3. Iniquity

#1. **“Transgression”** (means:)

- ◆ An act of rebellion and disloyalty to God.

#2. **“Sin”** (means:)

- ◆ Missing the mark of God's will and plan.

#3. **"Iniquity"** (means:)

- ◆ The conscious intentional act of doing wrong.
- ◆ We've all transgressed and rebelled against God.
- ◆ We've all sinned and missed the mark.
- ◆ We've all committed iniquity and done wrong at sometime.

Question: You say pastor, how can we rejoice, be glad and shout for joy when we've all experienced this trinity of transgression, sin and iniquity?

Answer: We can rejoice and be glad because God has equally matched what was against us in the cross of Jesus (our trinity of sin has been matched by a trinity of grace).

#1. We are joyful because in (v. 1) our transgressions have been "Forgiven"!

Question: What's it mean to be forgiven?

Answer: The Hebrew word for "Forgiven" means **"to lift up, bear all and carry away"**.

- ◆ This was the work of God's doing when Jesus carried your sins upon Himself.
- ◆ This was the work Christ, as he lifted your sin and removed it from the sight of God.
- ◆ This forgiveness means the burden of carrying your own sin has been lifted off of you and placed upon another.
- ◆ It's a picture of the scapegoat in Leviticus 16, when Aaron placed his bloody hands on the head of a live goat and confessed the sins of Israel.

#2. We are joyful because in (v. 1) our sin has been "Covered"!

Question: What's it mean that our sin has been **"covered"**?

Answer: The Hebrew word for **"covered"** means **"To cancel from the sight of God so that God cannot bring it up anymore as a ground for His displeasure"**.
(Repeat)

(Your Sin Has Been "Covered" Means:)

- ◆ God (in Christ) has put your sin out of sight.
- ◆ This refers to the golden mercy seat on the ark of the covenant that hid the broken law in the ark from the view of God.
- ◆ This covering enables God to treat the sinner as if they had never sinned.
- ◆ This means that joyful people are those who know that God has no grounds for displeasure against them.

(In Other Words)

- ◆ Sin once visible to us is now invisible to God.

#3. We are joyful because in (v. 2) our iniquity has been "Cancelled"!

(V. 2), Blessed are who? Those unto whom the Lord "Imputeth not" iniquity.

Question: What do the words **"Imputeth not"** mean?

Answer: "Forgiven" and "Covered" are positive, "Imputeth not" is negative.

- ◆ It describes what God does not do.
- ◆ **"Imputeth not"** means – God does not count the sin against us, (It's cancelled)
- ◆ "Impute" is a bookkeeping term.
- ◆ It refers to a book ledger that means 2 things:

#1. God writes our sin into Christ's ledger and punishes that sin in Him (and),

#2. At the same time, God writes the righteousness of Jesus into our ledger and counts us justified because of His merit.

Question: Don't you see why David is so full of joy?

- ◆ He remembers his transgression, his sin and his iniquity.
 - #1. He knows he was disloyal to God.
 - #2. He knows he missed the mark.
 - #3. He knows he did wrong intentionally.

(But somehow, God in grace, matched his trinity of sin, with the trinity of grace).

- #1. **Forgiven** (His sin carried away like the scapegoat carried away Israel's sin into the wilderness).
- #2. **Covered** (His sin covered like the broken law was concealed out of sight under the mercy seat on the ark of the covenant).
- #3. **"Imputed Not"** (His sin taken from his ledger and placed into the ledger of another).

Question: Why is David so "Blessed" and exuberantly happy? (Even after lies, adultery, manipulation and murder?)

Answer: Because there is no (I repeat) no greater blessedness to know that our sin...

- #1...has been **forgiven!**
- #2...has been **covered!**
- #3...has **not been counted against us!**

Illustration

- ◆ On Friday at the hospital a sister asked me, "Pastor, could I sing a song to you the Lord gave me?"
- ◆ 87 years old, confined indoors, her son killed in Vietnam in 1968, burns on her leg...
- ◆ ...with joy and gladness she sang (why?) Because she said, there's nothing in between her and Jesus.

II. **Word #2. Is "Folly"**

Question: What is the folly that David discovered?

Answer: His folly is confessed in Vs. 3 & 4).

"When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long".

"For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me; my moisture is turned into the drought of summer".

Question: What was David's folly?

Answer: His folly was to "cover up" and keep his sin to himself!

Question: Why is it recorded?

Answer: To show us the folly of not repenting of any sin.

Question: What happens to us when we resist the Holy Spirit when we "keep silent" and refuse to cry out to God for mercy?

Physical Decay:

"My bones waxed old" (v. 3) (which means:)

- ◆ David's health begins to falter.
- ◆ David's strength becomes exhausted.

Emotional Distress:

"Day and night thy hand was heavy upon me". (v. 4) (which means:)

- ◆ David feels God pressing upon him.
- ◆ David feels the weight of guilt upon his conscience.

Spiritual Drought:

"My moisture is turned into the drought of summer". (v. 4) (which means:)

- ◆ David's water supply is all dried up.

- ◆ David senses that dew and rain are withheld.

Question: Why can't David receive relief in drought?

Answer: Because David can't look up to God in prayer.

(Psalm 40:12)

"For innumerable evils have compassed me about. Mine iniquities have taken hold of me, so that I am not able to look up. They are more than the hairs of mine head; therefore, my heart faileth me".

Illustration

Yesterday in a newspaper I read this headline, "Martha Stewart pleads for mercy from the government".

- ◆ If Martha Stewart has sense enough to plead for mercy,
- ◆ Surely we can plead for mercy like David.

Question: Pastor, how do we escape all spiritual folly?

(Verse 5)

"I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord..." (v. 5)

- ◆ David bears the pressure long enough.
- ◆ David's anguish became deeper and deeper.
- ◆ David finally turns to the Lord in confession.

- A. "I acknowledged my sin". (v. 5)
- B. "My iniquity have I not hid". (v. 5)
- C. "I will confess my transgressions". (v. 5)

#1. David Acknowledges

Or, David resolves to agree with what God has been saying.

#2. David Doesn't Hide

Or, David makes no attempt to cover up and continue on as usual.

#3. David Confesses His Sin

Or, instead of suppress it, David runs to God to obtain forgiveness.

"Blessed is the man (or woman) v. 2, in whose spirit there is no guile".

- ◆ The Hebrew word "guile" means: "Excuse".
- ◆ "Blessed are those who do not "excuse" their sin but openly cast it upon the Lord'.
- ◆ "Blessed are those who do not deny their own shortcomings".
- ◆ "Blessed are those who agree with God and become whole on the inside".

A. W. Tozer's Formula For Personal Revival Is A Classic:

- #1. **Get thoroughly dissatisfied with yourself.** Complacency is the deadly enemy of spiritual progress. The contented soul is a stagnant soul.
- #2. **Set your face like a flint toward a sweeping transformation of your life.** Timid experiments are tagged for failure before they start. We must throw our whole soul into our desire for God.
- #3. **Put yourself in the way of blessing.** It's a mistake to expect God's help to come as a windfall apart from conditions known and met. To desire revival, and at the same time to neglect prayer and devotion, is to wish one way and walk another.
- #4. **Do a thorough job of repenting.** Hasty repentance means a shallow spiritual experience. Let godly sorrow do her healing work. It is our wretched habit of tolerating sin that keeps us in our half-dead condition.
- #5. **Make restitution wherever possible.** If you owe a debt, pay it. If you have quarreled with anyone, go as far as you can to achieve reconciliation. As fully as possible, make the crooked straight.

- #6. **Bring your life into accord with the Sermon on the Mount and such other New Testament Scriptures as are designed to instruct in the way of righteousness.** An honest man with an open Bible and a pad and pencil is sure to find out what's wrong with him quickly.
- #7. **Be serious minded.** The people of the world used to go to the movies to escape serious thinking about God and religion. There must be a radical change in your habits, or there will not be any permanent improvement in your interior life.
- #8. **Deliberately narrow your interests.** Too many projects use up time and energy without bringing us nearer to God. The mansions of the heart will become larger when the doors are thrown open to Christ and closed against the world and sin.
- #9. **Begin to witness.** Find something to do for God, and your fellowman. Make yourself available...Do anything you are asked to do. Learn to obey.
- #10. **Have faith in God.** Begin to expect. Look up toward the throne. All heaven is on your side. God will not disappoint you.

III. **Word #3 Is "*Freedom*"**

In (v. 6), we are free to trust God in the flood.

In (v. 7), we are free to express songs of deliverance.

In (v. 8), we are free to be led by God day by day.

In (v. 9), we are free to submit to the total will of God.

In (v. 10), we are free to call upon God for mercy when we sin.

In (v. 11), we are free to rejoice, be glad and shout for joy to the Lord.

(In Other Words)

◆ The absolute undeniable happiest people on the earth are those who...

#1...Experience the healing, cleansing and forgiving grace of Jesus, (and)

#2...Refuse to torture themselves in vain by covering up what God wants to carry away!!!

AMEN!
Bill Kirk, Pastor