Series: Pathway Through the Psalms

SORRY FOR MY SIN

Text: Psalms 38:18

Psalm 38:18

For I will declare mine iniquity; I will be sorry for my sin.

Introduction:

One only needs to read the psalm for few verses to feel the distress and discomfort of David. We are not certain of the context, but we know from David's own words that his suffering is a consequence of sin.

David declares his iniquity in verse 18 and confesses that he is sorry for his sin.

Note:

1. THE REBUKE OF HIS SIN (VSS. 1-10)

A. The Wrath of God (vs. 1)

Psalm 38:1

¹ O LORD, rebuke me not in thy wrath: neither chasten me in thy hot displeasure.

David knows that God is displeased with him.

The word rebuke means to sentence or rule against.

Note not only the wrath of God but also:

B. The War With God (vs. 2)

Psalm 38:2

² For thine arrows stick fast in me, and thy hand presseth me sore.

Here David describes his agony as though he is at war with God.

His rebellion against God has brought about pain and defeat.

There is no winning in this war.

We note not only the wrath of God and the war with God but also:

C. The Wickedness Against God (vs. 3)

Psalm 38:3

³ There is no soundness in my flesh because of thine anger; neither is there any rest in my bones because of my sin.

The key to understanding this entire psalm is found in the last four words of this verse – because of my sin.

Because of his sin he is undergoing physical pain.

Be certain that sin has a high price tag.

In verse one the Psalmist is in the courtroom with God.

In verse two the Psalmist is in the battlefield with God.

In verse three the Psalmist is in the hospital with God.

Notice The Rebuke of His Sin but secondly:

2. THE REALITY OF HIS SIN (VS. 4-10)

A. He Is Distressed (vs. 4)

Psalm 38:4

⁴ For mine iniquities are gone over mine head: as an heavy burden they are too heavy for me.

B. He Is Defiled (vs. 5)

Psalm 38:5

⁵ My wounds stink and are corrupt because of my foolishness.

C. He Is Depressed (vs. 6)

Psalm 38:6

- ⁶ I am troubled; I am bowed down greatly; I go mourning all the day long.
 - D. He Is Diseased (vs. 7)

Psalm 38:7

- ⁷ For my loins are filled with a loathsome disease: and there is no soundness in my flesh.
 - E. He Is Debilitated (vs. 8)

Psalm 38:8

- ⁸ I am feeble and sore broken: I have roared by reason of the disquietness of my heart.
 - F. He Is Dejected (vs. 9)

Psalm 38:9

- ⁹ Lord, all my desire is before thee; and my groaning is not hid from thee.
 - G. He Is Darkened (vs. 10)

Psalm 38:10

¹⁰ My heart panteth, my strength faileth me: as for the light of mine eyes, it also is gone from me.

In his own words the Psalmist reveals the consequences of his sinful ways.

In God's courtroom he has been found guilty on God's battlefield he has been defeated, and in God's hospital he has been diagnosed with sickness.

Notice not only the Rebuke and Reality but thirdly:

3. THE REJECTION BECAUSE OF HIS SIN (VS. 11-12)

This rejection is seen in:

A. His Friends (vs. 11)

Psalm 38:11

¹¹ My lovers and my friends stand aloof from my sore; and my kinsmen stand afar off.

B. His Foes (vs. 12)

Psalm 38:12

¹² They also that seek after my life lay snares for me: and they that seek my hurt speak mischievous things, and imagine deceits all the day long.

The Psalmist is feeling defeated on every angle.

Notice not only the Rebuke, Reality, and Rejection, but lastly:

4. THE REMEDY FOR HIS SIN (VSS.13-16)

Notice:

A. His Desire (vs. 15)

Psalm 38:15

¹⁵ For in thee, O LORD, do I hope: thou wilt hear, O Lord my God.

David's only hope was that God would hear him.

He no longer wanted to live a defeated life.

Not only do we see his desire but also:

B. His Declaration (vs. 18)

Psalm 38:18

¹⁸ For I will declare mine iniquity; I will be sorry for my sin.

David reached the point of genuine repentance.

Close

We too will pay a price for sin in our life and must come to the point that we need to confess it to God and be sorry for it.