

Series: Pathway Through the Psalms

**BLESSED IS HE WHOSE
TRANSGRESSION IS FORGIVEN
PSALMS 32**

Text: Psalms 32:1

Psalm 32:1

¹ *Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.*

Introduction:

This Psalm documents the anguish and pain that David experienced from his sinful condition.

This psalm along with 35, 51, 102, 130, and 143 expresses the sorrow of David's heart as he seeks forgiveness from God.

David realizes had failed and his fellowship with the Lord had been affected.

Remember:

Although David was a man after God's own heart, he did struggle with sin.

The truth in this psalm is that sin brings affliction, adversity, and anguish in the life of the believer.

There is however joy in being forgiven. This seems to be the central point of this passage.

David expresses what it is like to have sin forgiven and pardoned by God.

Note:

1. THE BLESSING OF HAVING OUR SIN COVERED (VS. 1-2)

Psalm 32:1

¹ *Blessed is he **whose transgression is forgiven**, whose sin is covered.*

A. The Blessing of Sin Forgiven

The word “blessed” simply means to experience the goodness of God.

The word “transgression” refers to a revolt. It denotes a spiritual rebellion against what is good and right.

David, though he was a godly king, knew what it was like to revolt and rebel against the very principles and precepts that he loved.

Like all people David's nature embraced the wickedness of this world as he rebelled against the Lord.

He did however discover the forgiveness of God and testified to the blessings of having his sins taken away.

Not only is it a blessing to have our sins forgiven but also we see:

B. The Blessing of Sin Forgotten (vs. 1b)

Psalm 32:1

*¹Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, **whose sin is covered.***

David not only discovered the blessings of having his sin forgiven, but he also realized what it meant to have his sin forgotten.

Note the difference between the transgression and sin.

The word sin that is used here means a certain offense. It implies guilt, shame, and reproach.

The sin of David has been "covered" meaning that it was no longer seen or visible.

The “covering in the Bible always speaks of a covenant. David recognized that through his covenant with God his sins were forgiven and forgotten.

The death of Christ and the shedding of His blood has covered the Christians sin and has made them disappear. Though many people will remember our sins and will often remind us of them and use them against us, God has forgotten them.

Not only is it a blessing to have our sins forgiven and forgotten but also we see:

C. The Blessing of Sin Forsaken (vs. 2)

Psalm 32:2

² Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.

David uses the word “blessed” again in this verse and recognized that in order to have the goodness of God, the sin in our lives must be forsaken.

Note not only the Blessing of Having Our Sin Covered but secondly:

2. THE BURDEN OF HAVING OUR SINS CONCEALED (VS. 3-5)

We are familiar with the story of David's sin with Bathsheba. In order to conceal his sin he summoned Bathsheba's husband home from the battlefield.

However David's scheme failed.

David then had her husband sent to the frontline and the rest of the soldier to leave him there to defend himself. Uriah ended up being killed.

David thought that he had successfully concealed his sin. But God still knew and he sent Nathan to confront him about his attempt to conceal his sin.

2 Samuel 12:1-23

¹ And the LORD sent Nathan unto David. And he came unto him, and said unto him, There were two men in one city; the one rich, and the other poor. ² The rich man had exceeding many flocks and herds: ³ But the poor man had nothing, save one little ewe lamb, which he had bought and nourished up: and it grew up together with him, and with his children; it did eat of his own meat, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom, and was unto him as a daughter. ⁴ And there came a traveller unto the rich man, and he spared to take of his own flock and of his own herd, to dress for the wayfaring man that was come unto him; but took

the poor man's lamb, and dressed it for the man that was come to him. ⁵ And David's anger was greatly kindled against the man; and he said to Nathan, As the LORD liveth, the man that hath done this thing shall surely die: ⁶ And he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity. ⁷ And Nathan said to David, Thou art the man. Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I anointed thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the hand of Saul; ⁸ And I gave thee thy master's house, and thy master's wives into thy bosom, and gave thee the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would moreover have given unto thee such and such things. ⁹ Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in his sight? thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and hast taken his wife to be thy wife, and hast slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon. ¹⁰ Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house; because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife. ¹¹ Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give them unto thy neighbour, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this sun. ¹² For thou didst it secretly: but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun. ¹³ And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die. ¹⁴ Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to

the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die. ¹⁵ And Nathan departed unto his house. And the LORD struck the child that Uriah's wife bare unto David, and it was very sick. ¹⁶ David therefore besought God for the child; and David fasted, and went in, and lay all night upon the earth. ¹⁷ And the elders of his house arose, and went to him, to raise him up from the earth: but he would not, neither did he eat bread with them. ¹⁸ And it came to pass on the seventh day, that the child died. And the servants of David feared to tell him that the child was dead: for they said, Behold, while the child was yet alive, we spake unto him, and he would not hearken unto our voice: how will he then vex himself, if we tell him that the child is dead? ¹⁹ But when David saw that his servants whispered, David perceived that the child was dead: therefore David said unto his servants, Is the child dead? And they said, He is dead. ²⁰ Then David arose from the earth, and washed, and anointed himself, and changed his apparel, and came into the house of the LORD, and worshipped: then he came to his own house; and when he required, they set bread before him, and he did eat. ²¹ Then said his servants unto him, What thing is this that thou hast done? thou didst fast and weep for the child, while it was alive; but when the child was dead, thou didst rise and eat bread. ²² And he said, While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept: for I said, Who can tell whether GOD will be gracious to me, that the child may live? ²³ But now he is

dead, wherefore should I fast? can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.

Notice:

A. The Silence of David's Sin (vs. 3)

Psalm 32:3

³ **When I kept silence,** *my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long.*

David acknowledged that he had failed to confess but had tried to conceal his sin.

Notice David had once been a:

- Healthy Man (vs. 3)

Psalm 32:3

³ *When I kept silence,* **my bones waxed old** *through my roaring all the day long.*

Remember sin always will take a toll on our body and health.

Illustration:

A couple years ago my high school graduation class had its 30 year reunion.

I took my senior year book with me and studied the names of individuals.

When we arrived at the location where we were having dinner much to my surprise many of them looked nothing like they did in the year book.

Some had aged naturally, but those had had changed the most had changed through a sinful lifestyle.

As a matter of fact I left there feeling pretty good about myself. I looked like one of the youngest there.

Not only had David been a healthy man but also he had been a:

- Happy Man (vs. 4a)

Psalm 32:4

⁴ ***For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me:*** *my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah.*

Because of David's sin he couldn't escape the pain and anguish and the conviction he was feeling.

Remember:

Conviction without Confession and Commitment always results in Confusion, Confounding, and Condemnation

Not only had David been a healthy and happy man but also he had been a:

- Hearty Man (vs. 4)

Psalm 32:4

⁴ For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: **my moisture is turned into the drought of summer.** Selah.

Just like the drought saps the life out of the living, sin causes a weakening of the Christian.

Note not only the Blessing of Having Our Sin Covered and the Burden of Having Our Sin Concealed but lastly:

3. THE BEAUTY OF HAVING OUR SINS CONFESSED (VS. 5)

Psalm 32:5

⁵ *I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.*

The word “acknowledged” means to fully understand and discern.

David finally reached a point where he realized that his sin had brought disrupted his fellowship with God.

David knew he was wrong and he agreed with God about his sinful condition.

Notice when David acknowledged his sin he then confessed his sins.

The difference is that acknowledgment means to be aware while confession means to admit.

God wants us to confess our sins before him as a testimony that we need His mercy and grace to forgive us.

The result of David’s confession was forgiveness: and in forgiveness he discovered the “blessing: or the joy of God.

Close:

Twice in these five verses David used the expression “Selah.”

That means to stop, ponder, and meditate upon what has been said.

When David reflected upon the forgiveness of God he knew his sins had been forgiven, and because of God's forgiveness he experienced joy in his heart.

There is great joy in forgiveness.