

Psalm 032 - Pauline Psalm: Penitential Psalm: The Blessings of Forgiveness

Psalm 32

[A Psalm of David, Maschil]

The Blessings of Forgiveness

- 1 How blessed is he whose wrongdoing is forgiven, Whose sin is covered!
- 1 How blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, Whose sin is covered!
- 1 How blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
- 1 Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

- 2 How blessed is a person whose guilt the LORD does not take into account, And in whose spirit there is no deceit!
- 2 How blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity, And in whose spirit there is no deceit!
- 2 How blessed is the person against whom the LORD does not charge iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.
- 2 Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.
- The first beatitude in Psalms (Ps 1:1) was for the obedient; this second beatitude is for the forgiven...

The Folly of Impenitence

- 3 When I kept silent *about my sin*, my body wasted away Through my groaning all day long.
- 3 When I kept silent *about my sin*, my body wasted away Through my groaning all day long.
- 3 When I kept silent about my sin, my body wasted away by my groaning all day long.
- 3 When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long.
- For a period of six months to a year after David had committed adultery and murder, he remained silent in an attempt to hide his sin from others and from God

4 For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality failed as with the dry heat of summer. *Selah*

4 For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was drained away as with the fever heat of summer. *Selah.*

4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my strength was exhausted as in a summer drought.

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

- Chronologically, David's experience with forgiveness came long after he had committed his sins and covered them up (v3-5)

- It was a terribly trying and taxing time. Charles Spurgeon: "God does not permit His children to sin successfully." His bones were "roaring" (groaning) (Cf. Ps 51:8).

The Way of Deliverance

5 I acknowledged my sin to You, And I did not hide my guilt; I said, "I will confess my wrongdoings to the LORD"; And You forgave the guilt of my sin. *Selah*

5 I acknowledged my sin to You, And my iniquity I did not hide; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"; And You forgave the guilt of my sin. *Selah.*

5 My sin I acknowledged to you; my iniquity I did not hide. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." And you forgave the guilt of my sin!

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 Lord sent the prophet Nathan to confront David ("Thou art the man..." (2 Sam 12:1-7) and declare God's forgiveness (1 John 1:9)

- God puts the righteousness of Christ on our account (Rom 4:3ff; 5:13; 2 Cor 5:19-22; Gal 3:6)

6 Therefore, let everyone who is godly pray to You in a time when You may be found; Certainly in a flood of great waters, they will not reach him.

6 Therefore, let everyone who is godly pray to You in a time when You may be found; Surely in a flood of great waters they will not reach him.

6 Therefore every godly person should pray to you at such a time. Surely a flood of great waters will not reach him.

6 For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a time when thou mayest be found: surely in the floods of great waters they shall not come nigh unto him.

7 You are my hiding place; You keep me from trouble; You surround me with songs of deliverance. *Selah*

7 You are my hiding place; You preserve me from trouble; You surround me with songs of deliverance. *Selah*.

7 You are my hiding place; you will deliver me from trouble and surround me with shouts of deliverance.

7 Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. *Selah*.

David's Family Troubles

- Bathsheba's first son died [Bathsheba's first surviving son was Solomon (the basis for Matthew's genealogy)]
 - Bathsheba's second surviving son was Nathan (not the prophet) and the basis for Luke's (Mary's) genealogy
- David's son Amnon raped his half-sister Tamar and was slain by Absalom (2 Sam 13)
- Absalom tried to seize the throne and was killed by Joab (2 Sam 14-18)
- While David was dying, Adonijah tried to take the sceptre from Solomon and Adonijah was slain (1 Kings 1)

The Joy of Obedience

8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go; I will advise you with My eye upon you.

8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go; I will counsel you with My eye upon you.

8 I will instruct you and teach you concerning the path you should walk; I will direct you with my eye.

8 I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.

9 Do not be like the horse or like the mule, which have no understanding, Whose trappings include bit and bridle to hold them in check, *Otherwise* they will not come near to you.

9 Do not be as the horse or as the mule which have no understanding, Whose trappings include bit and bridle to hold them in check, *Otherwise* they will not come

near to you.

9 Don't be like a horse or mule, without understanding. They are held in check by a bit and bridle in their mouths; otherwise they will not remain near you.

9 Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee.

- God gave David assurance that the joy of salvation would be restored to him (Ps 51:12) if he remained obedient, following God's instruction

- He was not to descend to that of an animal (impetuous as a horse; stubborn as a mule)

10 The sorrows of the wicked are many, But the one who trusts in the LORD, goodness will surround him.

10 Many are the sorrows of the wicked, But he who trusts in the LORD, lovingkindness shall surround him.

10 The wicked have many sorrows, but gracious love surrounds those who trust in the LORD.

10 Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the LORD, mercy shall compass him about.

11 Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, you righteous ones; And shout for joy, all you who are upright in heart.

11 Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, you righteous ones; And shout for joy, all you who are upright in heart.

11 Righteous ones, be glad in the LORD and rejoice! Shout for joy, all of you who are upright in heart!

11 Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart.

- David opened this psalm with the joyful announcement of having been forgiven; he now closes with the exhortation to join him in celebrating the mercy of the Lord