

Psalms 32, 51 and 90 – Students Edition

Psalms 32 and 51

The Confession Psalms

Intro: The background for these psalms is in II Samuel 11-12. David lusted after his neighbor's wife, committed adultery, made the husband drunk, murdered him and then covered the whole affair for at least a year. He was not a youth when he fell into these sins. He was a mature man, ruling over a great kingdom. "Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed, lest he fall." Ps. 51 was David's prayer of confession. Psalms 32 is his song of forgiveness. I John 1:5-2:2. This is God's provision for cleansing.

A. David's Prayer of Confession – Ps 51

This is a very personal prayer. Note how often David uses "me" and "my sin".

His eyes are _____ on someone else. His eyes on himself and his Lord

1. The Cost of _____ sin:
 - a. The Physical Cost: Ps 32:3-4 – Became ill
 - b. The Spiritual Cost: Ps 51:1-2 – Lost the _____ of his heart
 - i. Transgression, acts of rebellion, crossing over the line, Iniquity, inward crookedness, perversity, "missing the mark" (Sin)
 - ii. Vs 17 – David's HEART not only became dirty but also hard
 - iii. _____ – all he could see was his sin: A man with dirty heart becomes defensive, wondering what other people may know.
 - iv. _____ – He lost the sound of joy and gladness (Vs8)
 - v. _____ – (vs 13-15) Could no longer testify or witness or sing God's praises. Nothing shuts a believers mouth like unconfessed sin.
 - vi. _____ – vs 9 – he begs for wisdom
 - vii. _____ – vs 10-11 – Heart and Spirit were out of fellowship with God and therefore had no joy.
 1. We do not _____ the Holy Spirit but we do grieve the Spirit and lose fellowship and blessing. (Eph 4:30-32)
2. The Cost of _____ Sin

- a. True confession involves repentance.
 - i. An authentic change of mind.
 - ii. There is a difference in _____ sin and _____ sin
 - 1. _____ means “to say the same thing”
 - 2. I Jn 1:9
 - 3.
 - iii. True confession cost: broken spirit and a contrite heart (vs 17)
 - 1. Doesn’t mean we do penance to earn forgiveness but it does mean that we are truly broken and hide nothing from God.

3. The Cost of _____ Sin

- a. Good works cannot cleanse sin (vs 16-17)
- b. Only the Blood of Jesus Christ
- c. Forgiveness is not a cheap thing. Heb 10:1-18; I Jn 1:7-2:2
- d. The high cost of cleansing our sin should make us hate sin and desire to turn from it.

David’s Praise for GOD’S Cleansing – Psalms 32

The first two verses are quoted by Paul (Romans 4:7-8)

David had been guilty of rebelling against the Law and failed to meet God’s righteous standards. He had allowed his sinful nature to control him and then deceitfully covered the entire matter for over a year. (See Proverbs 28:13)

- 1. The Silence of _____ (Vs 3-4)
 - a. What happened to David when he refused to admit and confess his sins?
 - i. HE SUFFERED both spiritually and physically
 - 1. Because like an old man.
 - 2. “Dried up” like a brook in a drought

(NOTE: I Cor 11:29-32)

- b. What was the remedy he found?
 - i. NONE - He didn’t find one. Vs 4 – “Day and night” he suffered

- ii. Psalms 38:3 – No wholesomeness (“I feel good!”); no rest for my bones (no peace, no comfort; like the body aches of the flu – there is no respite from it)

2. The Sob of _____ (vs 5)

- a. II Sam 12:12-13 – Immediate confession followed by intense confession
 - i. David got alone for 7 days with _____ confession
 - ii. God doesn’t forgive because we feel sorry or even because we pray
 - 1. He forgives when we confess
 - 2. He has already made provision to keep us from sin (I Cor 10:13)

3. The Song of _____; The song of Deliverance (Vs 6-7)

- a. Pray and find God’s forgiveness “when (he) may be found.” (Isa 55:6-7, II Cor 6:2, Heb 3:13-15 – Read; implies that there is a time when He cannot be found.
- b. Also, pray when you find out your sins. Don’t ignore the conviction of the Spirit of God. See Heb 12:17 – Esau sought it but too late.

4. The Shout of _____ (8-11) – God speaking to David

- a. I will instruct and teach thee
- b. I will guide with my eye – Like a father who gives his son a “look”
 - i. Not like a horse who needs a bit to control
 - ii. Not like a mule who lags behind stubbornly
 - iii. No Bits and Bridles (good message title)
- c. Be Glad- Rejoice – Shout for JOY!
- d. Vs 10 – The Lord will protect and uphold. Hallelujah!

Psalm 90

1. Probably the _____ - Psalm

Ascribed to Moses – (as is 91)

It opens Book 4: the book of testing, trials and bitter experiences

2. Vs. 1-4 – the _____ God
 - a. Setting – at the entrance to the Promised Land
 - b. Deuteronomy 32 & 33 – message “This is your life”
 - c. Perhaps at this time (Deuteronomy 33:1) that he wrote or read Psalm 90
 - d. After studying the records of all the patriarchs, Moses is keenly aware of the unity of God’s plan for mankind.
 - i. God is _____ – Where He is, that’s home
 1. Eden
 2. Violent world of antediluvians
 3. The Ak
 4. The tent in the land of Canaan
 5. Bondage in Egypt
 6. Or following the cloud

Note: In this life the people of God are pilgrims and strangers. See Hebrews 11:8-14

- ii. Moses then stresses the eternal _____ of God.
 - iii. After creation came the fall and then the curse.

Vs. 3 – destruction = crumbling – Genesis 3:19

In science = the law of increasing entropy or disorder
 - iv. After the curse men lived almost 1000 years
- Average age of antediluvians = 912
- After flood lifespans greatly decreased
- Moses at 120 was 60 years older than any of his contemporaries
3. Vs. 5-11 – Finite, mortal man

Vs. 5 – they are like grass – Isaiah 40:6-8; 1 Peter 1:24; Psalm 103:14, 16

The problem here is not biological but theological.

As long as there is sin there will be death – Romans 6:23

Vs. 8 – two aspects of sin

 - 1) Iniquities
 - 2) Secret sins – Psalm 19:12

Vs. 9-10 – Brevity of life – James 4:14
 4. Vs. 12-17 – True wisdom and salvation

A prayer for God's complete salvation

- a. Man is helpless and dying
God is might and eternal
- b. Number our days – probably only 50 of the 70 can be used productively for God.

That's only 18,000 days.

Deuteronomy 32:29; Ephesians 5:15

Note the 7 requests Moses ends with

- 1.) Vs. 13 – let it repent thee concerning thy servant – Romans 8:19, 23
- 2.) Vs. 14 – salvation and true happiness are gifts of God's grace.
 - a. Those who receive it early are better off.
- 3.) Vs. 15 – some day He's coming and will say as Paul in 2 Corinthians 4:17
- 4.) Vs. 16 – we need to see the world as God sees it
- 5.) Vs. 16b – more important we need to comprehend the glory of God and pass that on to our children
- 6.) 17a
- 7.) 15b – Philippians 2:12-13