

## *The Blessings of Forgiveness*

### *Psalm 32*

*“Thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance.’ What a golden sentence! The man is encircled in song, surrounded by dancing mercies, all of them proclaiming the triumphs of grace. There is no breach in the circle, it completely rings him round; on all sides he hears music. Before him hope sounds the cymbals, and behind him gratitude beats the timbrel. Right and left, above and beneath, the air resounds with joy, and all this for the very man who, a few weeks ago, was roaring all the day long. How great a change! What wonders grace has done and still can do! “Selah.” There was a need of a pause, for love so amazing needs to be pondered, and joy so great demands quiet contemplation, since language fails to express it.” Spurgeon*

- I. Psalm 32 is a “**Maskil**”, a teaching psalm meant to instruct believers on the importance of repentance and restoration before the Lord. David wanted to keep believers from making the same sinful mistakes he made when he turned his back on God. It is a psalm celebrating being made right with the Lord and the joy that comes when the stain, guilt and shame of sin is **permanently** washed away by the blood of Christ.

Psalm 51:12-13

Luke 5:30-32

**Romans 8:1-4** *1Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, 2because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. 3For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, 4in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.*

- II. God doesn't want us to suffer the consequences of rebelling against his authority through moral compromise and sin. He would rather bless us with the many blessings that come from his love, grace and mercy. But when we do sin and cry out to him in repentance, he immediately lifts the burden of its guilt off us, he covers it by the blood of Christ, and he forgets it. Trust is believing that God honors repentance. Joy comes from knowing that God is the one we can run to and hide from the ravages of sin and the craziness of this wicked world.

Ps. 32:1-7

Rom. 8:1-4

Isa. 43:25

Isa. 55:6-7

2 Cor. 6:2

**פְּשָׁה** *pesha'*, *peh'-shah*; a revolt (national, moral or religious):—rebellion, sin, transgression, trespass. (Strong's)

**חָטָא** *chăṭâ'âh*, *khat-aw-aw*; miss, miss the way, sin, incur guilt, forfeit. TWOT

**יָוֹן** *'âvôn*, *aw-vone*; perversity, depravity, iniquity, guilt (Strong's)

*1 John 1:9; 2:1-2 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 1My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father-Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. 2He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.*

- III. A sure way to keep ourselves on his straight path of righteousness is to let him lovingly teach us his ways. It is better to sit as a good student in the Lord's classroom knowing that he is constantly watching over the wellbeing of our hearts through his counsel, than to sit as a brute beast in the classroom of an evil world system that couldn't care less about our spiritual, emotional and physical wellbeing. Trust is knowing that he will unfailingly love us despite the struggles we might have living with our sin nature in a fallen, sinful world.

Ps. 32:8-11