

Does Your Sin Bother You?

by Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

Psalms 51:1-4, "Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest."

David was a man who trusted in God and performed great deeds by faith. There is no doubt that he wanted to be faithful to the Lord. Still, David was a man and had the weaknesses of a man, causing him to fail at times. In Psalms 51 he was facing one of his times of failure when he didn't do what was right, but let his desires take control. None of us can speak harshly of him when we have done the same thing in our lives. **Romans 2:1**, "Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things." Let's be honest, sometimes we fail in our walk

with God. When we realize that we failed in some area, is it alright, or does your sin bother you?

King David is known for his sins with Bathsheba and her husband. Without intending to commit such sins, he got caught up in the passion of the moment and committed adultery. Then to cover it up he tried to send Uriah home to his wife. When that didn't work, in desperation, he had Uriah killed. Later when he realized what he had done he was sorry and ashamed of himself. He said that his sin was ever before him. This shows that he was truly sorry for his sins.

Then we can see others in the bible who sinned and didn't worry about it at all. **2 Kings 10:31**, "But Jehu took no heed to walk in the law of the LORD God of Israel with all his heart: for he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam, which made Israel to sin. Jehu did what he wanted and didn't worry about keeping the law of God." If a person isn't troubled by his sin then he doesn't walk with the Lord.

Each man, or woman, chooses the way that they live, making their own decisions. If we want to be pleasing to God then we strive to resist sin and to keep the commandments. Being human, there are times when we will fail and how we face our failures shows what we really are. To be sorry means that a person

is aware that he failed and regrets that action or even that thought.

When we come to the Lord in repentance and ask for forgiveness we become a new creature in Christ Jesus. From that point on we are to live according to his will, and not doing whatever our flesh wants. If we really mean to do his will and are serious about living for the Lord, we don't want to break his commandments. He loves us and will forgive if, and when, we repent of our sins.

Repentance comes about when a person admits that he did wrong. If he wants to do what is right then he will be sorry for whatever he did that was against God's will. A person who wants to do what is right will grieve over his failures. That's what David was talking about when he said that his sin was ever before him. He couldn't put it aside, or forget what he had done. It was in his thoughts and troubled him because he knew that his relationship with God was not what it had been. Sin divides us and separates us from God, taking away our confidence and joy.

There can be no joy of salvation, or confidence, in a relationship with the Lord when sin has entered into our lives. If our sin bothers us and we suffer remorse then we will go to the Lord and repent.

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This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of Joshua, intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times

OTHNIEL'S TRIUMPH

AFTER JOSHUA HAD LED THE ISRAELITES INTO THE PROMISED LAND, CONQUERING CITY AFTER CITY, AND KING AFTER KING, THE PEOPLE FINALLY BEGIN TO SETTLE INTO THEIR INHERITANCE...



... AND AT THIS TIME, CALEB, THE SON OF JEPHUNNEH, LOOKS UPON THE GREAT CITY OF KIR-JATH-SE-PHER.

THIS IS THE LAST STRONGHOLD OF THE GIANTS - WHICH WAS GIVEN TO ME AS PART OF MY INHERITANCE!



HOW CAN I, CALEB, SON OF JEPHUNNEH, TAKE POSSESSION OF ALL MY INHERITANCE WHEN, BEHOLD, THE GIANTS STILL HOLD THIS GREAT CITY!

TO THE MAN THAT SMITEST KIR-JATH-SE-PHER, AND TAKETH IT, TO HIM WILL I GIVE ACH-SAH, MY DAUGHTER, TO WIFE!



AND WORD OF THIS OFFER SOON GOES THROUGHOUT THE TRIBE OF JUDAH - BUT THE PEOPLE TREMBLE AT THE THOUGHT OF HAVING TO FIGHT THE FIERCE GIANTS IN THEIR OWN STRONGHOLD - HOW CAN ANY MAN OVERCOME THESE GIGANTIC WARRIORS RULING THE SURROUNDING LANDS, EXACTING TAXES FROM THE LESSER PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN CONSTANT FEAR OF THESE TERRIFYING BEINGS ?!!

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