

## Psalms Handout Week Twenty-Three

Isa. 6:1 In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the LORD sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above Him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!"

1 Chron. 29:11 Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is Yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all.

Isa. 40:28 Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

Rom. 11:33 Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! "For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?" "Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?" For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

Lev. 19: And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them, You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.

Rom. 3:10 As it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one...23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

1 Jn. 1:10 If we say we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

Isa. 53:5 But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on Him, and by His wounds we are healed.

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

Col. 2:13 When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross.

Lam. 3:22 Because of the LORD'S great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.

Is repentance necessary for salvation? Aren't we just saved by faith?

Lk. 13:5 [Jesus speaking] I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.

Mk. 4:15 Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

Acts 2:37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

Repentance is a change of mind and heart that says, "I am totally sinful (every part/all the time) and headed for certain destruction. Therefore, I turn from my path, my way, and place all my hope for salvation in Jesus." We turn from faith in ourselves to faith in God. It's a necessary, complete, continuous motion.

Lk. 23:39 One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? We are *punished justly*, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "*Jesus, remember me* when you come into your kingdom."

Well, at least I had the good sense to repent. Really?

Acts 11:18 When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, "So then, even to Gentiles God has granted repentance that leads to life."

2 Tim. 2:25 Opponents must be gently instructed, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth.

We have positional forgiveness-

I'm good to go then?

What's your nagging sin?

Why are you still working on it?

Because true believers want. \_\_\_\_\_

Can't I just pay God back, do something to show how sorry I am and call it even?

That minimizes

It minimizes

But God says we have to confess and repent. Why? What for?

Frederick Buechner: To confess your sins to God is not to tell God anything He doesn't already know. Until you confess them, however, they are the abyss between you. When you confess them, they become the bridge.

1 Pt. 3:18 Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring us to God.

Mat. 26:27 Then He took a cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many *for the forgiveness of sins*."

So what's your problem?!

### **Psalm 51**

**For the director of music. A psalm of David. When the prophet Nathan came to him after David had committed adultery with Bathsheba.**

What did Nathan do right?

How else are we brought round to our sin?

Ps. 90:8 You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.

**1. Have mercy/be gracious to me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness** (chesed);  
**According to the greatness of Your compassion** (racham) **blot out** (wipe off) my transgressions.

-Basis of C and R:

Heb. 12:1-2 Let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith.

WesMin. Conf. As there is no sin so small it does not deserve damnation, so there is no sin so great that it can bring damnation upon those who truly repent.

-Direction and focus of C and R:

**2 Wash** (hard scrubbing) **me thoroughly from my iniquity** (perversions) **And cleanse** (ritually purify) **me from my sin.**

**3 For I know my transgressions** (rebellious acts), **And my sin** (miss) **is ever before me.**

**4 Against You, You only, I have sinned And done what is evil in Your sight,  
So that You are justified when You speak And blameless when You judge.**

-C and R is the pathway

Mat. 6:3 Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

--C and R is bluntly/painfully honest.

Confess: homologeo. To say the same thing, agree with.

Don't minimize, don't rationalize, don't relabel.

The words matter.

Hosea 14:1 Return, Israel, to the LORD your God. Your sins have been your downfall!

*Take words with you* and return to the LORD. Say to him: "Forgive all our sins and receive us graciously, that we may offer the fruit of our lips.

Rom. 10:8 But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim: If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

-There needs to be integration of heart, soul and body.

-Vague confession leads to vague spurious repentance. You can't fight a sin you can't even name.

If I immediately express remorse and ask forgiveness of a person I've harmed, do I need to confess it to God?

But v. 4 still bugs us. How dare David overlook the people he has hurt!

1. All sin is ultimately against

2. David isn't minimizing the sin against them, he is

3. Most important is to recognize and deal with the worst damage of all...

--True C and R takes full responsibility.

Why does the devil love it when we plead “circumstances” ?

Isa. 53:7 He was oppressed and afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth; He was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He did not open his mouth.

Isa. 53:8 For He was cut off from the land of the living; for the *transgression of my people* He was punished.

1 Sam. 15:19 Why did you not obey the Lord? Why did you pounce on the plunder and do evil in the eyes of the LORD?”

“But I did obey the Lord,” Saul said. “I went on the mission the Lord assigned me. I completely destroyed the Amalekites and brought back Agag their king. The soldiers took sheep and cattle from the plunder, the best of what was devoted to God, in order to sacrifice them to the Lord *your God* at Gilgal.

2 Sam. 12:13 Then David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the LORD.”

**5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me.**

\*Note: To find the root of sin is not to solve the problem.

Next step...

**6 Behold, You desire truth in the innermost being, And in the hidden part (satum)  
You will make me know wisdom.**

Satum:

How does the unplugging happen? V. 6b

**7 Purify (un-sin) me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.  
8 Make me to hear joy and gladness,  
Let the bones which You have broken (crushed) rejoice (dance).**

Plea for no barriers. Embarrassing confession.

Verbs are “futures”. How can David, how can we be so sure?

Broken bones?! Who broke them? Whaaaat?

Song of Sol.2:15 Catch for us the foxes, the little foxes that ruin the vineyard....

A cool thing... v. 8b            He wants to dance *with*

--Godly C and R doesn't leave you like a whipped puppy. It should bring you joy.

2 Cor. 7: 9 I now rejoice, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made sorrowful to the point of repentance; for you were made sorrowful according to the will of God, so that you might not suffer loss in anything through us. For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.

Judas vs. Peter

## **9 Hide Your face from my sins And blot out all my iniquities.**

How can God see us but not see the sin?

Phil. 3:9 And be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—

2 Cor. 5:21 For our sake he made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.

Rom. 7:18 For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing is present in me, but the doing of the good is not. For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want...25 Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?

## **10 Create (bara) in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me.**

Mat. 15:18 But the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders. These are the things which defile the man;

Create: Gen. 1:1 In the beginning God created...

Mat. 5:8. Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.

Renew a steadfast spirit in me:

Eph. 5:18 ...Be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Eph. 5:8 for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light... Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even *expose them*.

How do we expose them?

### Discussion

Have you gained any new insight into your personal recurring sin?

Where are you getting stuck?

What are you deriving from it that you think you are not getting from God?

What idol are you worshiping? What hole are you trying to fill?

What do you think God would say to you about this sin? Do you really believe Him?