

22nd of November 2015

Consequences of sin (Pt 4 David).

Introduction.

This is our fourth study on the person of David in the scriptures.

Question from our previous teaching: Given that scriptures record that David walked wisely in all his ways, yet he sinned in the “matter of Uriah the Hittite” (1Kg.15: 5), what else did David need to do other than acknowledge his sin, for him to have a heart after God?

From our previous study we covered three points that contributed to our answer.

1. David knew of God’s lovingkindness so when he sinned he sought His mercy.
2. David knew God’s tender mercies so when he sinned he asked for his sins to be blotted out.
3. David knew God could cast him away because of his sin.

The teaching will cover another three points that contribute to an answer.

(1) David had a broken spirit and a contrite heart and (2) David believed God could create in him a right spirit and a new heart, and (3) David promised God he would do work meet for repentance.

1. David had a broken spirit and a contrite heart before the Lord.

Supporting verse.

Ps.51: 17 “The sacrifices of God [are] a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.”

Context & setting of verse.

* Each of our points in this teaching are from Ps.51, and so the context that is established in this first point will be applicable to each point that follows.

* The setting for Ps.51 is David’s realisation that he has sinned before God in the matter of Uriah the Hittite, where he committed adultery with Bathsheba and then put her husband Uriah in the frontline of the battle where he was killed (2Sam11). It is in the context of David realising his sin before God (2Sam.12: 4) that he wrote Ps.51. David acknowledged his sin (verse 3), that his transgression was against God only (verse 4), and that he was born in sin (verse 5). He sought God to purge his sin (verse 7), to cast him not away (verse 11), and deliver him from bloodguiltiness (verse 14). David also knows that even though the law required burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin, God desired not sacrifice, nor did He delight in burnt offering (especially in light of Israel’s sacrifice with one hand and overt wickedness on the other – see 1Sam.15: 23 & Hos.6: 6), but rather he desires a broken spirit, and a broken and contrite heart.

Other scriptural support.

Ps.34: 18 & Is.57: 15.

Scriptural examples.

* When a man weeps sore it could be said that he too had a broken spirit and a contrite heart (see Hezekiah in 2Kgs.20: 3).

Application of verse today.

* Ps.51 is written to the nation of Israel but when a man becomes a Christian his belief takes place in his heart (Rom.10: 8, 9 & 10), and we know that true repentance is from the heart and “godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation” (2Cor.7: 10), hence our verse is applicable to us today.

Illustration.

* Churches today are full of people that say they believe God, they believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. I have stood with men on the street that have called on the Lord Jesus, and said to God that they believe He died for their sin on the cross only to return a year later to repeat the experience.

* In 1733 Jonathan Edwards from East Windsor Connecticut preached “In the hands of an angry God” and it is recorded that his congregation were weeping so much that they could not stand up, some went home and wept bitterly, and hundreds got saved that day and the days that followed.

* Which of our two examples did the hearers of the gospel message have a broken spirit and a contrite heart?

Learning from our illustration.

* Clearly our second example of Jonathan Edwards because a broken spirit in a man indicates he is “broken” emotionally, and a contrite heart is a crushed heart, that is in a state of disrepair. For a man to know that Christ died for his sin, he must first admit his sin, hence why the preacher preaches the law (by the law is the knowledge of sin – Rom.3: 20). The greater his sin, the greater his sorrow. For David, he was king, and he knew the consequences of his sin hence he came to God in a broken spirit in weeping because his heart was crushed as were the hearts of those at Connecticut in 1733.

* Weeping before God because of our iniquity is not uncommon at a time when a man believes that Christ died for his sin on the cross, and then on his journey when he repents at a time of falling away, because weeping before the Lord is an indication of his broken spirit and crushed and contrite heart.

Challenge & or encouragement.

* If you have always come to God with joy in your heart and never with tears and brokenness, then ask the Lord to bring you to that point where you can see your sin, and bring you to a place of being absolutely broken both in spirit and in heart. It is truly a wonderful place to be for a believer or a non-believer, because God is pleased with a broken spirit and a contrite heart.

2. David believed God could create in him a new heart and a right spirit.

Supporting verse.

Ps.51: 10 “Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.”

Meaning of verse.

* Having a broken spirit and a crushed heart because of the magnitude of his sin David knew that the only one to create in him a new heart and a right spirit was God, and so he asked Him.

Application of verse today.

* Our verse is written to the children of Israel but just as David asked God to create in him a new heart and a right spirit, so does an unsaved man come to God and is born again, he is made into a new creature, “old things are passed away...all things are become new” (2Cor.5: 17), and God gives him His Holy Spirit. The difference in the church age is that once a man is saved God does not take away His Spirit from him because he is “sealed unto the day of redemption” (Eph.4: 30).

Illustration.

* Those on the street who walk past the preacher or believer holding forth the word of God and say, “I am okay”, they either believe they are not sinners, or their good works will offset their sin, or there is no God.

Learning from our illustration.

* According to the scriptures “Who can say, I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin?” (Prov.20: 9). Answer to this rhetorical question is in Rom.3: 10 “none”. This same man that walks passed and says “I am good” does not believe he needs a new spirit, because he is unspiritual, and is blind to the fact that his spirit is dead. No one will be able to stand before God on the day of their judgment and say, “I have made my heart clean”. And only a man that has sinned and acknowledges his sin, and humbled himself before God, can come to Him and ask for a new heart and a right spirit.

Challenge & or encouragement.

* For a man to have a heart after God like David did he needs to adopt an attitude of needing to be a new creature, born again, and it is only when that takes place that a man is in the body of Christ. And he will receive a new spirit when he is born again, because he will then be given the spirit of God that will dwell in him, and his body will be the temple of the Holy spirit. Our encouragement today is that believers would live their lives knowing that they are in the body of Christ, therefore they must have a new heart and God has not simply renewed their dead spirit, but given them His Holy Spirit. Let us encourage the backslidden and the lost to believe God that He, and He alone, can create in them a new heart and a right spirit.

3. David promised God that he would do work meet for repentance.

Supporting verse.

Ps.51: 13 “[Then] will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.”

Meaning of verse.

* David is saying to God that once He has restored to him the joy of His salvation, and upheld him with His spirit (Ps.51: 12), THEN will he teach transgressors the ways of the Lord and sinners shall be converted. In other words he will go out and preach to the heathen, hence his works will reflect his change of heart, his repentance.

Application of verse today.

* As we have established our verse is written to the nation of Israel, but given Paul’s instruction to the church that “they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance” (Acts 26: 20), then our verse is applicable to us today.

Illustration.

* A quote from the movie Pearl Harbour:

“I made a deal with God. I told him I was sorry, I told him I knew I'd been a fool for leaving you and trying to go over there and be a hero, and I promised I'd never ask for anything again, if I could just see you one more time... And ya know what? It was worth it. You kept me alive Evelyn, you brought me home.”

Learning from our illustration.

* Making a deal with God like they do in show business is not repentance, it is not turning **from** sin, nor turning **to** God, and doing works **meet** for repentance. Making a deal with God like they do in the movies can be seen for what it is by what is being said: “I told him (God) I knew I'd been a fool for leaving you and trying to go over there and be a hero, and promised I'd never ask for anything again, if I could just see you one more time”. That is bargaining on the basis of man’s rules, man’s lusts, of what he wants, and has nothing to do with biblical repentance that comes from a man’s heart, where he acknowledges his sin (as David did), acknowledges the consequences of his sin (as David did), and then asks God to restore his salvation, and his commitment to do good works (as David did).

Challenge & or encouragement.

* If you meet someone that is struggling with sin, or a Roman Catholic that thinks he is cleansed every time he drinks the cup, and so makes his own deal with God, then they will never undertake repentance on God’s terms. Works that are meet for repentance are valuable for the sinner, because he can see that God has forgiven him, and that when He is given the strength by God to do the works, then God has heard his prayers to go and do good works meet for repentance. The person is not simply repenting, turning to God, and then allowing himself to re-offend, which only further knocks his morale and discourages him. So when you do wrong before God repent, turn to God, and do work meet for repentance (Acts 26: 20). In doing so, you will be moving toward the heart of David who did not just use words to say “I am sorry” to God, but promised to God that IF he “Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation...Then I will teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.” Which is a different prayer to God than in the movies where it is all about the person and their lusts. Be encouraged not to get mixed up with showbiz words that include the use of God whilst ignoring the Biblical principles of godly repentance, which is attained by sorrow unto God (2Cor.7: 9). And remember that David sought to do works meets for repentance following his confession of sin, as a sign of his heart being right with God.

Back to our question: What else did David need to do other than acknowledge his sin, for him to have a heart after God?

A summary of our three points that contribute to an answer.

(1) David had a broken spirit and a contrite heart and (2) David believed God could create in him a right spirit and a new heart, and (3) David promised God he would do work meet for repentance.