

“ALL DRIED UP WITH OLD BONES”

Psalm 32

Pastor Keith E. Gephart

INTRODUCTION

I must ask you an important question as we are about to enter into this new year of 2014: **Are you right with God? Are your sins forgiven and are you in fellowship with Him?** The person who lives with un-confessed sin and is out of fellowship with God is living a life away from God’s blessings and can only expect misery inwardly and outwardly!

HAPPY IS THE PERSON WHO IS JUSTIFIED BY FAITH AND LIVING WITH A CLEAN HEART!

In this psalm we see The happy condition of a forgiven believer, the heavy burden of a guilty believer, the hidden safety of a clean Christian, the hearing and Heeding of one’s Teacher, the horrible life of the rebellious, and the heavenly joy of the forgiven believer.

- I. THE HAPPY CONDITION OF A FORGIVEN BELIEVER (VV. 1-2)
 - A. The Problem: transgression (also v. 5—crossing over the bounds) and sin (also v. 5—2 times; missing the mark or goal or way), and iniquity (also v. 5—2 times—something bent, perverted, erring from the way), and deceit (v. 2—treachery).
 - B. The Solution:
 1. “Forgiven”—i.e. “lifted up” or “removed”;
 2. “Covered”—concealing from sight and the bad consequences—not covering up; cf. v. 5 where word is used in this sense.
 3. “Imputation”—sin is not put to our account; righteousness is—See Paul’s use of this verse in Rom. 4:6-8, then followed with a reference to this word’s use in Gen. 15:6 of Abraham’s imputation of righteousness as the result of **faith**.
 - C. The Consequences:
 - a. “Blessed”—“**Happy**”—double emphasis in vv. 1-2. HOW HAPPY!
 - b. No deceit—His life is transformed—not free to sin!
But, this was not always the case with David. Before he confessed his sin, he was miserable!
- II. THE HEAVY BURDEN OF A GUILTY BELIEVER (3-4)
 - A. The Cause of the burden of sin
 - B. The Consequences of sin’s guilt
The solution was found in genuine confession of sin to a gracious and accessible God.
- III. THE HIDDEN SAFETY OF A CLEAN CHRISTIAN (5-7)
 - A. The Approach of the Sinner
 1. Pray (v. 6) to Yahweh—the God of the covenant (v. 5)
 2. Acknowledge—i.e. “cause to know” before God—your sin. (v. 5)
 3. Don’t cover-up your iniquity (v. 5; cf. God’s righteous “cover-up” in v. 1)

4. Confess [same verb means “praise, give thanks” your **transgression** to the Lord (v. 5)
 5. Approach Him as a “godly-one”—one who is object of His “loyal love.” (v. 6)
- B. The Response of the Savior (5, 6, 7)
1. He makes Himself approachable—v. 6: “In a time when Thou mayest be found”
 2. He “forgives” (5b)
- C. The Blessed (happy) results to the Believer (6b, 7)
1. Preservation from trouble: even “a flood of great waters” will not reach the *believer* (6)
 2. Protection in a secure hiding place (7)
 3. Preserves from troubles—“tight spots, narrow places” (7b)
 4. Surrounds us with “songs of deliverance (7c)—literally “shouts” or “songs” of “deliverance”—joyful celebration that God has saved us
- IV. THE HEARING AND HEEDING OF ONE’S TEACHERS (8-9)
- A. The teacher’s Job
1. “Instruct”—“Cause to consider,” “lead to prudent behavior,” “cause to act circumspectly”
 2. “Teach”—“throw out” advice and instruction about “the way which you should (will) go”. This is a reference to following the *moral teachings of Scripture*.
 3. “Counsel” “with my eye upon you”—to make sure that the counsel is obeyed.
- B. The “student’s job—Listen with respect and willing heart
1. Don’t require coercion—like an animal needing harsh measures like a “bit” and “bridle”
 2. Don’t require treatment like a brute beast—cf. Jer. 10:14, 21 (“stupid”); Ps. 49:10, 12, 20—“the stupid perish” “like the beasts” in ignorance; 73:22—“senseless and ignorant like a beast” before God.
- V. THE HORRIBLE LIFE OF THE REBELLIOUS (10a)
- A. Their character is “wicked”—“loose” and “ill regulated” and “abnormal”—verbal root
- B. They have “**many**” pains—mental as well as physical—cf. Is. 53:3, 4: this term used for Messiah as the one who “carried” our pains and sorrows.
- VI. THE HEAVENLY JOY OF THE FORGIVEN BELIEVER (10B, 11)
- A. The Character of the Blessed person
1. “Trusts in Yahweh” (10b)
 2. “Righteous one” (11)
 3. “Upright of heart”
- B. The Condition of the Blessed person
1. He is “surrounded” by **loyal love** (10b; cf. surrounded by songs and shouts of joy in v. 7).
 2. His life is controlled by Joy

CONCLUSION

Remember Peter’s example.

Don’t be all dried up with old bones!

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