

The Joy Of Repentance (Psalm 32)

Introduction: David's a great sinner, but also a great saint.

A. The Miserable Anatomy of Sin (v. 1-4)

1. Transgression

Job 34:37, we read of the wicked, "He adds transgression to his sin."

1Kings 12:19 it says, "Israel has been in *rebellion* against the house of David to this day."

2. Sin

Judges 20:16, there were 600 left-handed men who could sling a stone at a hair's breath and not sin.

3. Iniquity

"Iniquity," means something that is twisted and distorted and corrupt.

Application: Sin brought misery

"My bones grew old through my groaning all the day long" (Psa 32:3).

B. The Glorious Grace of Repentance (v. 5-10)

1. The blessing of repentance (v. 5-7)

"I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted" (Luk 18:14).

Psalm 51, "A broken and a contrite heart—these, O God, you will not despise."

Application: Do not be stubborn, for He will lead you in the way (v. 8-10a)

Repentance has a way. "Bear fruits worthy of repentance," (Mat 3:8). Repentance is a fruit-bearing thing, a joyful thing.

2. The joy of repentance (v. 10b-11)

"He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy" (Pro 28:13).

Augustine's favorite, "penitential psalms," 6, 25, 32, 38, 51, 130, 143. Luther's "Pauline psalms," 32, 51, 130, and 143.

Luther: Thesis #1: "When our Lord and master Jesus Christ said 'Repent ye!' he called for the entire life of believers to be one of penitence."

"Most of God's people are contented to be saved from the hell that is without. They are not so anxious to be saved from the hell that is within" (M'Cheyne, *Memoir and Remains*, 339).