

BOOK OF 2 SAMUEL
HOW SIN AFFECTS A BELIEVER
PSALM 51; PSALM 32; 2 SAMUEL 12:1-6

Introduction

A saved person can never be lost! AMEN! All praise be to the name of Jesus! The Lord keeps those that He saves. That is His promise to us and we have His Word on it!

I'm glad that we never have to worry about our eternal security, because the Lord has made it clear enough for a child to understand.

John 10:27-28—"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: {28} And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand."

Philippians 1:6—"Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:"

Praise the Lord! Once we are truly born again, we're kept by the power of God! Because we believe that, some people think that we think we have a license to sin. But the grace of God is not a license for us to live any way we please. Just because a Christian can't lose his salvation by sinning, that doesn't mean a Christian has nothing to lose.

If a Christian sins, he always suffers consequences for sin. A child of God may sin, but no child of God can sin without consequence.

I want you to consider with me this evening what sin does in the life of a believer. **(Read Scripture)**

I. SIN AFFECTS THE BELIEVER SPIRITUALLY! (Vs 1-2)

A. David said, "*Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.*"

Why do we need to be washed? Why do we need to be cleansed? Because sin will soil our soul!

Sin affects the child of God spiritually and makes him feel dirty and unclean.

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B. There is a distinct difference between hogs and sheep!
A sheep may fall into a mud puddle but it will get out ASAP.
But, hogs fall into the mud and love it!

C. So also, there is a difference between a child of God and a child of the devil

1. A child of God may lapse into sin and then loathes it
2. A child of the devil leaps into sin and loves it.

SIN AFFECTS THE BELIEVER SPIRITUALLY!

II. SIN AFFECTS THE BELIEVER MENTALLY! (Vs 3-4)

When we know that we've sinned against God, it fills our mind and stings our conscience!

A child of God cannot readily sin and forget about it! Our minds become saturated by the sin we've committed and we're not able to put it aside, because our mind and conscience have become defiled.

When we were unsaved we could, and did, sin and many times we never even gave it another thought.

But that is not the case for a child of God. David said, "*My sin is ever before me*"

Unresolved sin in a believer's life can cause them to begin to have mental problems. It is the reason why some Christians have no peace.

When God saved us he didn't fix it so we could never sin but, He did fix it so we could never sin and fully enjoy it!

The children of God who are living with unconfessed sin in their lives are some of the most miserable people on earth!

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We see David's conscience was stricken by his sin. Now **we know** that his sin was not just against himself, his kingdom, his family, Bathsheba, and Uriah. All of that was bad enough, but his sin was primarily against God! When we sin against any of God's creation, we sin against Him!

David's sin created a barrier between him and God.
But there is a difference between a slave and a son...isn't there?

A slave fears the master's whip.
A son fears the father's displeasure.

David isn't just focusing on the chastisement from God here.
He realizes that he has hurt God!

When we sin we not only break God's law, but we also break God's heart!

David realized that **his** sin was in full view of the sight of God!
When we come to terms with the fact that God sees all that we do, it should have an effect on us!

Hebrews 4:13—“Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.”

David had committed adultery with Bathsheba and had her husband killed, but his conscience bothered him because he realized that this took place in God's full view!

We only fool ourselves if we think our sins are hidden and unknown to God!

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SIN AFFECTS THE BELIEVER SPIRITUALLY!
SIN AFFECTS THE BELIEVER MENTALLY! (Mind & Conscience)
III. SIN AFFECTS THE BELIEVER'S HEART! (Vs 8, 12)

After he sinned, David was an unhappy man. He couldn't lose his salvation but, he could and did lose the joy of his salvation

There are many Christians today who have no joy in their lives because they have hearts that have been saddened and depressed by sin in their lives.

There is a story told of a Christian who was placed in prison and the king wanted to punish him, so he called for advice.

Someone suggested that the king confiscate his goods, but the man had so few material possessions and all he ever spoke about was his riches in Christ and they realized they couldn't get ahold of them. Someone else suggested solitary confinement. But another said, “No, he claims he has a friend that sticketh closer than a brother who will go with him even in the dungeons.”

Another said, well you could behead him! But someone else said, “No, he says for him to live is Christ and to die is gain - he says he would go straight to heaven.”

“So, how can we make him suffer?, the King asked. Then one proclaimed, get him to sin then he will suffer greatly!

You see, sin will take the joy out of your life!

SPIRITUALLY, MENTALLY, HEART...
IV. SIN AFFECTS THE BELIEVER PHYSICALLY!
(Vs 8; Psalms 32:3-4)

The spiritual and mental anguish of David's sin began to take a physical toll on his body.

God's chastising hand was so heavily upon David that he felt crushed.

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Doctors will tell you that psychological problems, if not properly dealt with, will carry over to the physical realm and begin to cause real physical problems. They call it psychosomatic illness.

And, no doubt, there are many, believers and unbelievers alike who suffer physically because of sin.

With reference to Lord's supper, in 1 Corinthians 11:30, Paul said, *"For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep."* Referring to those who took of the Lord's table in an unworthy manner.

Sin can cause us to suffer physically.

Proverbs 17:22, "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine but a broken spirit drieth the bones"

That's not to say that all physical suffering is a result of personal sin. (Example–Job)

But we do need to realize that sin can and does result in physical suffering.

*SIN AFFECTS THE BELIEVER SPIRITUALLY...MENTALLY...
HEART...PHYSICALLY...*

V. SIN AFFECTS THE BELIEVER'S SPIRIT! (Vs 10)

When a person is not right with God he will have a wrong spirit.

When we're not right with the Lord, we can wind up with a harsh, critical, fault finding spirit.

Have you ever had a sour stomach? There is no dish on the table looks good if you have a sour stomach!

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A person who is not right with God and harbor's sin in their lives will be one of the most critical individuals around!

This is illustrated by David **2 Samuel 12:1-6**.

David was quick to criticize sin in the lives of others. He was quick to judge. But, the problem was in his own heart!

Sin sours the spirit!

VI. SIN AFFECTS THE BELIEVER'S LIPS! (Vs. 12-15)

David lost his song! David lost his testimony and witness!

Sin will seal the lips of anything that is good! It will dry up our praise!

Could that be why so many who claim to know the Lord will not witness or even testify for God?

Conclusion

Do you find yourself anywhere in these verses this evening?

Sin affects the life of a believer in all these ways that we've spoken of and even more.

Is there any hope? There is if you have a right response!

People react to sin in different ways:

- 1. Some try to run or hide from God!** (Adam and Eve/Jonah)
Psalms 139:7–"Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?"
- 2. Some try to cover their sin!** (Adam and Eve. David).
Proverbs 28:13–"He that covereth his sins shall not prosper:"

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3. Some try to deny their sin! (King Saul before Samuel)
Proverbs 29:11 He, that being often reprov'd hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.

4. But the only remedy is confession and repentance!
Proverbs 28:13—“He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.”

1 John 1:9—“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

This comes from being broken and contrite over sin!
(Vs 16-17)

If you are harboring sin in your life, I can assure you that it is going to affect you if you don't take care of it! The longer you hang on to sin, the more it affects you!

Sin will affect you spiritually and mentally, it will affect your heart, your physical body, your spirit, and your lips.

Why not come clean with God in your life tonight so you can have the joy restored!

Perhaps you are here this evening, and you are not a Christian, you have never placed your faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ on Calvary. You can trust Him today! Right now, you can come to Christ by faith.
(Acts 16:31) " ...Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved..."