

The Blessing of Forgiveness

Psalm 32:1-11

Main Point:

Because God is merciful in Christ, confess your sins to Him and rejoice in the blessing of His forgiveness.

1. You can be forgiven of all your sins.

2. In order to receive this forgiveness, you have to confess your sins to God.

3. Your confession to God should be honest, immediate, and willing.

4. Being forgiven of your sins, your life should now be full of joy.

Cross-References and Quotations

James Johnston, “The first word [transgression] describes our relationship to God: we have rebelled against him. The second word [sin] describes our relationship to God’s Law: we fall short and miss the mark. The third word [iniquity] describes the effect that sin has on us: we are crooked, perverse, and guilty before God.”

Allen Ross “If the forgiven sins are not imputed, it means that there is no record of them – they are gone and forgotten.”

James Johnston “If the Holy Spirit is making you miserable because of your sin, that is a sign that he cares for you. The time to worry is when you sin and God doesn’t bother you.”

George Horne “Outward calamities, and inward pangs of conscience, are the strokes of God’s hand, designed to humble the sinner, and lead him to confession ...”

Psalm 51:4 ⁴ Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done *this* evil in Your sight-- That You may be found just when You speak, *And* blameless when You judge. (NKJV)

Psalm 51:10-12 ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. ¹¹ Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. ¹² Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, And uphold me *by Your* generous Spirit. (NKJV)

Psalm 51:7 ⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. (NKJV)

James Montgomery Boice “God is ready and even yearning to forgive and restore us fully – if only we will confess our sin and come to him believing in Jesus Christ, who has made atonement for it. And he will do it right away.”

Allan Harman “A sinner should not be constrained like a rebellious animal to come to the Lord. Out of a sense of need he should make his confession and seek pardon.”

Romans 4:1-8 ¹ What then shall we say that Abraham our father has found according to the flesh? ² For if Abraham was justified by works, he has *something* to boast about, but not before God. ³ For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” ⁴ Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. ⁵ But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness, ⁶ just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works: ⁷ “Blessed *are those* whose lawless deeds are forgiven, And whose sins are covered; ⁸ Blessed *is the* man to whom the LORD shall not impute sin.” (NKJV)