

Guilt

Psalms 38:1-10

Guilt

- Definition: "... Responsibility for a mistake or error. Remorseful awareness of having done something wrong." (The American Heritage® Dictionary)
- One of the responsibilities of preachers.
2 Timothy 4:2

Guilt

The freedom from guilt is forgiveness.

1. How does God approach the sinner?
2. How did the prophets of God approach the sinner in the Old Testament?
3. How did Jesus?
4. How did the apostles of Christ approach the sinner in the New Testament?

God In The Garden

- Adam & Eve. Genesis 2-3
 - Did the Lord avoid the subject, seek to calm their fears or cover their shame?
 - Did he face them with their actions?
Genesis 3:9

God With Cain

- Cain. Genesis 4:5-7
 - "If thou **doest well**, shall it not be lifted up?"
 - (Hebrew *yatab*) "to be good, do well, be glad, please, do good." (W.E. Vine)

Nathan with David 2 Samuel 12:1-14

David...

- "*Thou art the man...*" 2 Samuel 12:7
- "*Thou despised the word of Jehovah...*" 2 Samuel 12:9
- "*Thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of Jehovah to blaspheme.*" 2 Samuel 12:14
- "*I have sinned against Jehovah...*" 2 Samuel 12:13

David... Psalms 51:3; 16-17

- The happy man is the forgiven man. Psalms 32:1-2
- The wicked man hides. *Proverbs 28:1 "The wicked flee when no man pursueth; But the righteous are bold as a lion"*
- Concealed sin makes one miserable. Psalms 32:3
- Crushed and dried up by guilt. Psalms 32:4; cf. 38:1-10
- Acknowledgment and forgiveness brought joy! Psalms 32:5, 10-11

Preaching Of Jesus

Exposed Both Sin And The Sinner

- Rich young ruler. Mark 10:17-22 ... Sorrowful
- Sadducees. Matthew 22:23-33 ... Astonished
- Pharisees. Matthew 15:12 ... Offended
- Apostle Peter. Luke 22:61 ... Wept bitterly
- Saul of Tarsus. Acts 9:4-6; 22:7ff; 26:9ff; 1 Timothy 1:12 ... Did not eat or drink for three days.

Apostles

Convicted The Jewish Court

Acts 4:18 Apostles charged by the court.
Acts 4:8ff, 19ff Apostles preached.

Acts 5:27-28 Apostles charged by the court.
Acts 5:29-33 Apostles preached.

Acts 5:40 Apostles charged by the court.
Acts 5:41-42 Apostles preached.

Acts 5:28; cf. Matthew 27:25
"His blood (be) on us, and on our children."

Efforts To Escape Guilt

- Kill the prophets. 1 Thessalonians 2:14-15; Hebrews 11:32, 36-37; Romans 11:3; cf. 1 Kings 19:14
- Kill Jesus.
 - Pharisees offended at his teaching. Matthew 15:12
 - Filled with madness. Luke 6:7,11
 - Insulted. Luke 11:45
 - Crucified him. Mark 15:13-14

Efforts To Escape Guilt

- Kill the apostles. Acts 5:28, 33
- Kill Stephen. Acts 7
- Kill Paul. Acts 14:19; 2 Corinthians 1:8-10; cf. 11:23ff
 - Even among brethren, Paul considered an enemy. Galatians 4:16

Efforts To Escape Guilt

- Blame someone else (Genesis 3:12ff; 1 Samuel 15).
- Find someone sinful who will sympathize with your sinful actions. (1 Kings 22:4-8).
- Deny any absolute moral standard. (John 18:38).

Is there a sadistic joy to be derived from making someone feel guilty?

Philippians 3:18 – “For many walk, of whom I told you often, and now tell you even weeping, (that they are) the enemies of the cross of Christ.”

2 Corinthians 2:4 – “For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote unto you with many tears; not that ye should be made sorry, but that ye might know the love that I have more abundantly unto you.”

The Holy Spirit was sent to “convict the world of sin” (*John 16:8*).

“elencho” “...to convict, confute, refute, usually with the suggestion of putting the convicted person to shame, see Matthew 18:15”

(from Vine's Expository Dictionary)

Guilt, shame and sorrow for sin are necessary for “*Godly sorrow worketh repentance*” (*2 Corinthians 7:10*)

God's Solution To Guilt:

REPENT Acts 17:30-31

Cause Of Guilt Is Sin!