

Psalm 32: Stages of David's repentance and reconciliation with God.

Psalm 32 Of David. <i>A maskil.</i>	An analysis with corroborating scriptures
<p>1 Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.</p> <p>2 Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit.</p>	<p>Positive and negative aspects of justification.</p> <p>v1. Positive aspect: David's sins are forgiven.</p> <p>v2. Negative aspect: David's sins are not counted against him. Paul cites these verses as example of faith justification: God declares sinners like David to be righteous in his sight through their faith and will do the same for us (Rom. 4:4-8, 23-24).</p>
<p>3 When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.</p>	<p>Stages of David's repentance and reconciliation:</p> <p>1) Refusal to face up to his sin. Result: misery. <i>If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.</i> 1 John 1:8</p>
<p>4 For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.</p>	<p>2) Conviction of sin. God shows David his sin. <i>For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.</i> Psalm 51:3</p>
<p>5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." And you forgave the guilt of my sin. Selah.</p>	<p>3) David confesses his sin; 4) God forgives him. <i>David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord." Nathan replied, "The Lord has taken away your sin. You are not going to die." 2 Sam. 12:13</i> <i>If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.</i> 1 John 1:9</p>
<p>6 Therefore let all the faithful pray to you while you may be found; surely the rising of the mighty waters will not reach them.</p>	<p>5) David's charge to us. He encourages us to confess sin when God reveals it, not postpone. <i>Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.</i> Isaiah 55:6</p>
<p>7 You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance. Selah.</p>	<p>6) Reconciliation. From having been his judge, God can now be David's refuge and his song. <i>Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice.</i> Psalm 51:8</p>
<p>8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.</p>	<p>7) God will be David's teacher and guide as well. <i>For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.</i> Proverbs 2:6</p>
<p>9 Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you.</p>	<p>8) God's admonition to David (and to us). <i>Listen, my sons, to a father's instruction; pay attention and gain understanding. I give you sound learning, so do not forsake my teaching.</i> Proverbs 4:1-2</p>
<p>10 Many are the woes of the wicked, but the Lord's unfailing love [Heb. <i>chesed</i>—lovingkindness, covenant mercy, steadfast love] surrounds the one who trusts in him.</p>	<p>9) David's testimony to us. <i>Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.</i> Proverbs 3:5-6</p>
<p>11 Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart! Selah.</p>	<p>10) The psalm ends as it began, with David's joy in being forgiven, sharing his joy with us in this song. <i>Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!</i> Philippians 4:4</p>