

Date: 25th March 2007

Speaker: Simon Sherwin

Reading: Psalm 32

This is a psalm of David giving instruction.

“Blessed” - O the happiness
O the joys

There is no joy or happiness like knowing that your sins have been dealt with.

“Transgressions” means breaking commands, being disobedient. “Sin” is not doing what is right.

There is forgiveness with God for both sin and transgressions.

This pictures a courtroom scene. The Judge sits and pronounces the verdict: No iniquity; no condemnation - nothing wrong - judge of the whole universe will judge justly.

Do you know the joy of sins forgiven?

No iniquity means that no fault to be found - the blessedness of such a position. Judge has said not guilty - no iniquity. It is only possible because of Christ and Calvary.

Has the burden of sin been lifted in your life? There is only one Person who can do it.

“Behold the lamb of God” (John 1:29)

Sin is covered. It is not just swept under the carpet. David was thinking of scriptures and a substitute, a covering of blood for sin.

There is far greater sacrifice today, blood which has been shed not to just cover sin but to put it away.

It cannot be done “the blood of bulls and goats” (Heb 10:4). The Lord Jesus offered one sacrifice for sins forever (Heb 10:12).

He took all that stood against us, “nailing it to his cross” (Col 2:14)

When God looks on those who have trusted in the Lord, He sees them without condemnation, clothed in the righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ (Rom 8:1).

David's joy is based on something that never needs to be done again. It is complete and perfect.

Do you know the blessing of sins forgiven?

Before you can, you need to come to an appreciation of your sin, how it is wrong in the sight of God. We might think that we are “Not really wicked”, “not really that bad”. It is not our assessments that count it is what God thinks and He says, “There is none that doeth good, no, not one” (Rom 3:12).

David knew something of the burden of sin but David was a good man. A man after God's heart. David knew what it was like to have a close relationship with God. He sinned badly and broke four commandments. For months, he showed no signs of repentance and had no enjoyment of his relationship with God.

Have you ever had a relationship with God? Do you know God as your Saviour? Has something come in that has spoiled the relationship? Is sin a burden to you?

Before David confessed there was a barrenness to life. During that time outwardly David was successful but inside was a different story. He was resistant and felt the displeasure of God.

Are you conscious of the displeasure of God?

If you haven't been aware of the burden of sin then you will not know that you need a Saviour. Whatever we have done it is the Lord that we have offended.

Have your sins been dealt with?

Who did David confess to? Was it a prophet or a priest. No, he confessed to the Lord. It is the Lord whom we have offended and alienated.

In Psalm 51, we read of David's confession as he cries, "Have mercy upon me, O God" (v 1). He makes confession and the Lord forgave Him. The burden was lifted and taken away.

The Lord Jesus said, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matt 11:28)

What Christ has done is sufficient now and will be for all eternity. There is a day of opportunity when Lord may be found. The call goes out, "Seek Lord while found, call upon Him while He is near" (Isa 55:6)

Has God touched your heart through the Lord Jesus Christ at Calvary? Are you among those who will confess and trust?

There are those who are too late. They will stand outside the door and knock. They will hear the reply, "I know you not whence ye are; depart from me" (Luke 13:27).

The Lord is our refuge from the storms of life and from the judgments to come. He is our hiding place - What an assurance the Christian can have.

"Righteousness" is not our righteousness. Our good deeds cannot make us joyful. If we put our trust in Him we have the promise of God that He will not leave us. The eye of the Lord is upon those who trust in Him (v 8) .

For the Christian, God has a personal interest in our spiritual education. We must not be stubborn and unchangeable (v 9).

The past is dealt with; the burden is gone; we can rejoice and be glad. The Christian's life is true happiness and joy with true peace based on the right relationship with God.