

All Sin Is Not The Same

(1 Kings 15:5)

- Introduction:
1. There was a time in my life when I struggled with assurance.
 2. I would sing songs, "Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine;" I would read Scriptures like (2 Timothy 1:12) I know whom I have believed...
 3. Yet, I had doubts. I wrestled with questions about sinning just prior to my death or not dying with a prayer on my lips.
 4. I saw myself popping in and out of God's favor, moving from saved to lost, lost to saved.
 5. I heard and believed that "sin is sin is sin." That it's all the same.
 - a. Maybe you've made this statement, yourself.
 - b. It's much easier if we lump it all together...discernment requires effort.
 - c. That statement can easily be shown to be false by the words of Jesus, himself (John 19:11).
 - d. There is a difference between sin in the life of one who is "walking in the light" (1 John 1:7) and in one who "turns aside" from God (1 Kings 15:5).
 - e. It's in this distinction, I learned to find peace, assurance, and security with reference to my salvation.

I. The Account Of David's Sin

- A. Sadly, as great as David was, he may be best remembered for his sin.
 1. Although he was a man after God's on heart (1 Samuel 13:14), he may be best remembered for the one time in his life when he turned aside from God.
 2. While David was riding the wave of power, fame, and success, he saw Bathsheba bathing (2 Samuel 11:2).
 3. Adultery is not a sin you stumble into; but a deliberate series of choices (2 Sam. 11:2-4).
- B. David tried to cover his sin with Bathsheba
 1. (2 Samuel 11:5).
 2. David tries to cover his sin (2 Samuel 11:8-9).
 3. David tries a second time to cover his sin (2 Samuel 11:13).
 4. Finally, David had Uriah killed (2 Samuel 11:15).
- C. David's sin with regard to this incident is different from other sins in his life.
 1. This incident provides us with a case-study of sin and God's grace.
 2. There is a difference between sins committed by one walking in the light (1 John 1:7) and one who has "turned aside" from walking with God (1 Kings 15:5).
 3. The peace of mind and assurance of Heaven isn't obtained through achieving a level of spiritual maturity that manifests itself through sinless

- living, rather it is obtained by walking in the light.
4. Ills. Of boy wanting to please his father.
 5. Ills. Of children walking in the snow.
- D. David was truly broken by his sins.
1. David's restoration to God was not secured through an apology sprinkled with excuses or blame, but a completely broken heart.
 2. (2 Samuel 12:13; Psalm 6:1-10; 32:1-11; 51:1-19).
 3. Though forgiven, David could never escape the consequences of his sin.

II. Lessons We Learn

- A. All of us are afflicted by sin.
1. (Romans 1-3).
 2. Although we would like to be sinless, we aren't.
 3. As much as we may try to pursue holiness, we continue to be haunted and taunted by our failures.
- B. Not all sin is the same.
1. Although David was guilty of many sins throughout his life, this incident is the only time in his life when he "turned away from God."
 2. (1 Kings 15:5).
- C. God is gracious to the humble.
1. After David is finally shaken back to his senses, he simply confessed, "I have sinned" (2 Samuel 12:13).
 2. He made no excuses, he offered no blame, he didn't attempt to lessen the gravity of what he did. He simply confessed his sin and threw himself to the mercy of God.
 3. And because God is a God who delights in mercy (Micah 7:18), David found forgiveness and restoration.

- Conclusion: 1. While the account of David's sin is an embarrassing blemish upon an otherwise godly life, I am thankful to God that he saw fit to preserve this account.
- a. It reminds us of sin's danger.
 - b. It reminds us of what will happen to our relationship with God if we fail to humbly repent and confess our sins, any sins.
 - c. But it also serves to give us hope. God is gracious and not willing that any should perish (2 Peter 3:9).
 - d. And even though we struggle with and will be plagued by sin all our lives, so long as we continue to walk in the light, and live a life of faith, we have forgiveness and maintain our fellowship with God.